



THEBESTSCHOOLS

Brown: I'll veto Europe's tax plan

GORDON BROWN will seek By Andrew Grice and today to head off German-led demands for a common European tax policy amid growing cabinet anxiety that the moves have played into the hands of Eurosceptics in Britain.

The Chancellor, who attends a meeting of EU finance ministers in Brussels today, faces a rift with other left of centre goveroments over calls for a minimum rate of company taxation; fontaine, to use Germany's spell a tax on foreign investments: and an environmental tax on domestic fuel and electricity.

Germany and France in a move would require unanimous to grant a surprise last-minute agreement amongst all 15

KATHERINE BUTLER

reprieve for duty free shopping, which is due to be abolished throughout Europe next June. The three countries will call for a five-year delay while

the issue is reviewed. The German Chancellor, Gerhard Schröder, has asked his finance minister, Oskar Lain the EU's rotating presidency, which starts next month, to campaign for a re-think on duty But Mr Brown will support free sales. But such a decision

member states, which may be October have have fuelled redifficult to achieve.

However, the agreement between Germany and Britain on duty free goods will not mask a growing rift over Mr Lafontaine's pressure for tax harmonisation to follow January's

launch of the single currency. Mr Brown will make clear he is ready to veto the three tax moves under discussion. "We are going to play hardball," said one British official. "We think we are in a majority and we will win this debate."

British ministers are worried that the demands of the new German government elected in

ports in Eurosceptic newspapers that a wide range of taxes. including income tax and VAT. could be decided by Brussels.

Downing Street pledged yesterday that children's clothes, food and public transport would continue to be exempt from VAT, and insisted that ending their zero-rating was not even under discussion in the EU.

Privately, ministers are worried that Tony Blair's "softly, softly" approach to Europe has been blown off course by the recent wave of speculation about a common tax policy. His allies are worried that this will make

it harder to win over British public opinion to support membership of the single currency.

At the same time, they acknowledge that repeated threats to wield the veto would diminish Britain's influence in Europe, as 11 other EU states prepare for the euro's launch in less than five weeks.

for Mr Brown is Germany's de- EU's first on a direct taxation mand for a minimum rate of corporation tax throughout the EU. This is seen by Britain as a move to stop UK firms enjoying a competitive advantage over their European rivals.

The Chancellor will also

20 per cent minimum tax on interest from savings and investments overseas. This would hit the British Eurobond market, threatening £5bn in

earnings and 11,000 jobs. Mr Brown will tell his EU counterparts the proposal is fundamentally flawed. He will The most immediate threat argue that the legislation, the measure, would not collect

more revenue, would bring the

EU into disrepute and would

entrench banking secrecy. The Chancellor's threat of a British veto will also extend to proposals for an environmental

tax, which some member states and the European Commission believe should hit domestic users of polluting fuels.

Britain is not opposed in principle to an energy tax, but the Government is determined to stamp out any suggestion that domestic tax rates are being dictated by Brussels.

Mr Brown will be asked today to sign up to plans for a coordinated crackdown on "unfair" business tax competition. Tax deals to promote the British film industry, a scheme to attract companies who locate their international headquarters in London, and a range of financial

EU report as potentially "harm ful" to Britain's partners.

Mr Brown will try to tur round the debate by calling fo the elimination of unfair ta: competition. Dawn Primarold the Treasury minister, will pre sent a report from an EU work ing group she chairs on tackling "harmful tax competition".

Tax harmonisation mea sures Britain would welcome include standardised excise duties to eliminate cigarette and alcohol smuggling from the continent.

Duty free abolition, page 12

A fitting testament to Oscar Wilde: a monumental row over gay politics

OSCAR WILDE could almost be By DAVID LISTER heard chuckling from the grave yesterday. On the 98th anniversary of his death, the playwright imprisoned for his gus forms a seat on which homosexuality gained a passers-by may sit and engage strange and belated revenge on in suitable conversation with the British Establishmen, with him. It invoked the scary

a cast list to die for. the cause of Oscar - Peter mouthing aphorisms at mid-Mandelson's name raised in a night. But there was a hint that discussion of homosexuality, this time by Yes, Minister actor Nigel Hawthorne; an embarrassed BBC interviewer attempting to shut Hawthorne up. and the openly gay Culture Secretary Chris Smith thanking Wilde for what he had done "for

our community". Last night Nigel Hawthorne told The Independent he was furious to have been silenced on air. "I'm so angry. The BBC should be ashamed of itself. I was vetoed. That is hypocrisy of the worst sort. I am already receiving support. Alan Bennett has left a fax on my machine saying, Well said'."

The day had started innocently enough with the unveiling of a statue to Wilde in central London in which Hawthorne gave a reading with Dame Judi Dench. The statue. by artist Maggi Hambling, entitled A Conversation with Oscar Wilde, depicts Wilde in bronze rising from his granite cians' private lives, Mr Stour-

AN HOUR'S visit is long enough for parents to tell whether a

school is good or bad. Chris

Woodhead, the Chief Inspector

dent's special league table sup-

plement, Mr Woodhead warns

parents who are choosing a

school to beware of heads who

sweep past their pupils "with

regal indifference" and to note

whether pupils open doors for

suits for England produced by

the Government, and published

in the supplement, offer parents

more information than ever

before about state and inde-

Teachers yesterday dis-

missed Mr Woodhead's com-

pendent schools.

Secondary school exam re-

Writing in The Indepen-

of Schools says today.

AND PAUL WAUGH

sarcophagus. The sarcophaprospect of every inebriated wit It was a day that saw – all in and would-be wit in London this was a little more than just a piece of public art when Mr Smith thanked Wilde for enlivening both his own life "and the life of our community".

But it was Hawthorne, in what the BBC saw as a display of indiscretion, who said that Mr Mandelson was in danger of being turned into a gay "martyr" like the Irish playwright. Mr Hawthorne was appear-

ing live on BBC TV's One

think there is a wider significance. Listening to the news, as I've been doing for the last five or 10 minutes, and hearing about Peter Mandelson ...

In a clear attempt to follow a recent BBC memo forbidding unnecessary reference to politi-

ments as "nonsense" and said

that they showed how little he

knew about what made a good

Mr Woodhead argues that

parents will discover most of

what they need to know in an

hour-long walk round. "Talk to

the head teacher. Try to find out

what they believe in, what are

they proud of in the school,

where they think are the weak-

nesses... Do they talk to mem-

they sweep past with regal in-

round the school? Do they open

doors or do you have to flatten

yourself against the walls?"

"How do the children behave

By Judith Judd

Education Editor



The actor Stephen Fry (left) at the unveiling of Maggi Hambling's sculpture 'A Conversation with Oscar Wilde'. Nigel Hawthorne (above with Dame Judi Dench) also

O'Clock News to discuss the statue. The presenter, Ed Stourton, asked Mr Hawthorne: "Is there a wider significance to this or is it just a rather entertaining sculpture?"

Mr Hawthorne replied: "I



attended the launch near London's Trafalgar Square, and later caused a stir during a BBC interview with his comments on gay politics Hamza Mould/National Pictures ton then cut in to ask the actor not to talk about "specific indi-

But Mr Hawthorne persisted: "If you don't talk about individuals, then you miss the whole point of this. I think that it's purely that society picks on these individuals and turns them into martyrs very often, which is exactly what happened to Oscar Wilde."

The BBC bulletin had earlier featured a report in which Martin Dowle, a representative of the British Council in Rio de

Janeiro, had vehemently denied that he had accompanied Mr Mandelson to gay nightclubs in the city. Mr Dowle said that the attacks on himself and Mr Mandelson were "like something out

He claimed that a comment in the House by William Hague referring to "Lord Mandelson of Rio" was a smear.

Both men had decided not to respond to the allegations for fear of giving them greater publicity, but Mr Dowle said that Mr Hague's comments

had forced his hand. "I think it ing prejudice. Fortunately, his is disgraceful for William Hague to take innuendo, lies and smears as part of a process of destruction of the lives of professional people," he said.

Mr Hague's office in turn denied the charge and said that he had been objecting instead to the cost of the trip rather than Mr Mandelson's private life.

But on such a politically fraught day, it was also worth remembering that Wilde should be celebrated for wit as much as for sexual politics and fight-

the traditional yardstick of the

proportion of pupils gaining

five A* to C grades at GCSE, al-

though this year the Govern-

ment has introduced a new

measure, the GCSE points

score, which awards points for

The top comprehensive

school on the first measure is

Old Swinford Hospital, in Stour-

bridge, (98 per cent compared

with a national average of 46 per

cent) which takes mainly

boarders, and the top on the

great-grandson Lucian Holland, a student at Oxford. showed he had inherited some

At the unveiling of the statue he told the assembled crowd: "Going to Ireland and seeing the beautiful houses that once belonged to the family, it struck me that if Oscar hadn't blown it all, they might still be ours.'

Tatchell in court, page 3 A wilfully tacky sculpture, Review Front

The bottom comprehensive

Middleton Park in Leeds,

where not a single pupil gained

five or more good grades, is

Tony Blair sends his children

is the fifth most improved

school according to a new gov-

ernment list of pupils achieving

At A-level, the best school in

the country is King Edward's

(Boys), in Birmingham, an in-

dependent school, where pupils

gained the equivalent of al-

Most improved school

page 10, Leading article, Review,

Full league tables,

28-page supplement

most four grade As each.

five or more good grades.

The London Oratory, where

threatened with closure.



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Name (caps) Mr/Mrs/Ms

OR please calf our freephone donation line 0800 038 48 38 Crisis, FREEPOST, Room 115, London E1 1BR

You can rate a school in an hour, says Woodhead THE BEST COMPREHENSIVES

ranked by the proportion of pupils gainin five or more GCSEs at grades A° to C

Old Swinford Hospital, Stourbridge

Thomas Telford School, Telford St Edward's College. Liverpool

The Hertfordshire and Essex High School, Bishop's Stortford 95% The Coopers' Company and Coborn GM School, Upminster 94% Dame Alice Owens School, Potters Bar, Herts Watford Grammar School for Girls. Watford, Herts

St Albans Girls' School, St Albans, Herts

Litter and graffiti did not "bode well". Mr Woodhead also suggests that parents should read schools' inspection reports and bers of staff and children or do study examination results. Doug McAvoy, the general

secretary of the National Union

of Teachers, said: "Mr Wood-

head's idea is a nonsense. If you

can tell a good school in the

time he suggests he needs to explain why it takes his inspectors as much as five days when they they are compiling a report.

It shows how little he understands about what makes an effective school."

second category is Thomas Telford School, in Telford, whose pupils achieved the equivalent of ten As - slightly ahead of the point score for Eton. Thomas Telford is also

each grade.

The independent's league tasecond on the first measure bles rank schools according to with 97 per cent.

> Spina bifida alert Babysitters' revenge How much will you have in our flour

Dirty tricks

Why the Government should put folic acid Health P13

Andrew Nell

INSIDE THIS SECTION

General Pinochet is fit to leave hospital, his doctors said Home P2

Fashlon Week crisis Key designers may leave London Fashion Week

US firms scrutinised The spotlight has fallen on wartime dealings by US firms with the Nazis Foreign P13

difference?

Italian killed family Italian living in London admits killing his family Foreign P14

Banks merger Up to 3,000 jobs could go in the creation of the world's biggest bank Business P16

Everton chief resigns Everton chairman Peter Johnson has resigned Sport P28

David Aaronovitch Looking for an identity: Lib Dems against the Queen's Speech Comment P3

> Hamish McRae Independence is good for Scotland's economy Comment P5

to pay on the night at the end of the millennium? Features P8

How the Foreign Office ousted Sukarno Features P9

ITV has given up serious news and current affairs



IN THE INDEPENDENT TOMORROW

Noel Edmonds is embarrassing. And he intends to stay that way

YOU ASK THE QUESTIONS. HE ANSWERS THEM (IN THE NAME OF LIGHT ENTERTAINMENT)

题FASHION: THE HIGH STREET STORE WARS **EPLUS THEATRE**, **MIDWEEK MONEY** & SECRETARIAL

THE BEST WRITING, WEEK IN, WEEK OUT: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, MARK STEEL, ROBERT FISK, TERENCE BLACKER JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, ANNE MCELVOY, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

'inochet nust get out, says nospital

r Chilean dictator, was last tht told to leave the private spital where he had been sying because he was "fit d no longer requires speulist medical care".

iory hospital is not only a gency to do so. uniliating rebuff for the genvery difficult for Jack Straw, e Home Secretary, to return m to Chile on compassionate ounds of ill health.

Following the ruling by the w lords that General Pinochet as not immune from prosecuon as a former head of state, health was one of the few rounds for his release left to Mr traw. The former dictator and fe senator faces extradition to pain on charges of genocide, errorism and torture.

The general had been noved to Grovelands in Southate, north London. He had een moved there from the ondon Clinic where he had uniergone a back operation.

GUSTO PINOCHET, the for- BY KIM SENGUPTA, COLIN BROWN AND LIZ NASH

has told the general and his entourage to find alternative accommodation as soon as possible, and is said to be un-The decision by Grovelands happy about their lack of ur-

Paul Jarman, a spokesman al, but would also now make for the hospital, said: "Grovelands Priory is preparing to dis-charge General Pinochet from its care. It was stated in open court... that General Pinochet was fit enough to appear at an initial bail hearing. In the opinion of Priory Healthcare, he no longer requires the specialist medical and nursing care provided at Grovelands Priory.

Some patients at the hospital are said to have been unhappy at having the general, accused of ordering almost four thousand deaths, staying there. There have also been daily vigils outside the hospital by former torture victims and human rights activists.

Friends and supporters of



Chile's Foreign Minister, Jose Miguel Insulza, at a press conference yesterday after visiting the Lower House of Parliament in Madrid

for alternative accommodation bail conditions will have to be machine that he did not want any for him, but with limited success. They are believed to have finally found a residence in Virginia Water, Surrey, after agreeing to insurance against bomb, rocket or firearm damage.

General Pinochet is on bail under condition that he stays within the confines of Grovelands Priory hospital, and re-

altered if he is moved, and Scotland Yard will have to approve a new venue for his stay. It has emerged that Mr Straw

has sent a clear message to Tony Blair not to intervene over whether to allow the extradition of the general to proceed. The Home Secretary had made it clear to other members of the The hospital management the general have been looking mains under police guard. The Cabinet through the Whitehall ple he is prepared to talk to

pressure put on him by other interested departments, including Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, or George Robertson, the

Secretary of State for Defence.

A Whitehall source said: "The message we are getting very strongly is that he doesn't want to be lobbied by anybody, including No 10. The only peo-

about it are his close civil servants and officials."

This was echoed by senior Home Office sources who denied that any deal had been done with Chile following the visit of the country's Foreign Minister, Jose Miguel Insulza. They insisted that Mr Straw was treating the matter in his quasi-judicial role, and his room

" very, very limited. He is prepared to let the law take its course for the time being".

Mr Insulza arrived in Spain to lobby for General Pinochet's freedom yesterday to be given a red carpet welcome. Spanish ministers are privately said to wish the extradition proceedings had never been started. Hugh O'Shaughnessy

Tourist board crowns dented

By Andrew Buncombe AND GARY FINN

THE ENGLISH Tourist Board admitted last night it did not always check that establishments had met legal safety requirements before awarding its sought-after crowns and commendations.

As police and health and safety officers continued their investigation into the deaths of two women guests at a country pub in Shropshire, the ETB said it did not always ask to see documents when it made its inspections.

"It is a requirement that all our establishments have to ensure they comply with regulations but we do not check fin each casel," a spokeswoman said. "We can ask for evidence if we suspect something is amiss but I don't know if this was the case."

Police yesterday named the two women who died from suspected carbon monoxide poisoning while staying at the Crown Inn at Wentor, Shropshire. Helen Marks. 31. from Leeds, and her friend Kay Stenning, 30, from Richmond, southwest London, were discovered by staff slumped in their guest room on Sunday morning. They were thought to have been attending a college reunion.

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A West Mercia Ambulance spokesman said they were believed to have been poisoned by carbon monoxide fumes from a leaking gas boiler underneath their room.

Two other guests who were found unconscious at the pub, which is on the slopes of the Long Mynd, were named as brother and sister Steven and Caroline Ford.

Steven, from Peterborough Cambridgeshire, and Caroline, of London, were flown by air ambulance to a decompression unit at Murrayfield Hospital in The Wirral, Merseyside, and were said to be recovering well

There was no one available for comment at the pub

Yet another undeclared directorship for Robinson

GEOFFREY ROBINSON faced By Fran Abrams increasing pressure to resign AND ANDREW MULLINS last night as yet another official aint was filed about his failure to register business in-

Mr Robinson held a £5,500 shareholding in a company making robots for three years without registering his interest, it emerged yesterday.

The Independent reported yesterday that Mr Robinson

never registered seven directorships in subsidiaries of his engineering company TransTec PLC. Mr Robinson has said he was not required to register the directorships. The Paymaster General apologised to the House of Commons last month for failing to register two other directorships.

Elizabeth Filkin, concerns a shareholding in RJ Engineers, a Midlands-based firm. In return for financial backing, Mr Robinson received a 10 per cent stake and a directorship of the company when it launched in 1990. Commons rules say shareholdings should be listed in the Reg-

ister of Members' Interests.

the new Parliamentary Com- Brown, a member of the Con- I. We repaid all that and a bit of ship with Robert Maxwell. missioner for Standards, servatives' Treasury team, interest," he said. called for an urgent investiga tion. "If the man has any honour and if this government has any integrity, he ought to resign," he said.

Roger Evans, owner of RJ Engineers, said the MP had put up some money to help him start his business. "Geoffrey was good to me - he gave us a

Mrs Filkin, who will take up her post in early February, will find a pile of complaints about Mr Robinson awaiting her. A senior member of staff will handle complaints in the interim.

As well as two letters from Mr Clifton-Brown about the directorships and shareholding, there have also been fresh allegations

LIGHTING UP

4.03pm 3.57pm 4.05pm 3.49pm 3.55pm 3.54pm 3.43pm

HIGH TIDES

AIR QUALITY

NO₂ Moderate Moderate Good Moderate

Moderate Good Good

Good Good Good Good Good

7.56ar 7.54ar 8.24ar 7.45ar 8.03ar 8.08ar

Mr Robinson wrote to The In-

dependent last night saying he was not required to register the seven directorships mentioned in yesterday's paper, all of which were of subsidiaries of his engineering firm, TransTec. Sources close to the minister said a memo to MPs about a rule change in June 1993 had asked them to update their registration

YESTERDAY

EXTREMES

published register. Mr Robinson resigned the directorships in December 1993, However, a se nior political figure involved with the rule change told The Independent Mr Robinson had technically been in breach from the date on which the rules were introduced. Mr Robinson's spokesman refused to comment when the complaint was put to him on Sunday.

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important change to our telephone

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N Isles: Cloudy with rain at times. A fresh south All The **Phone** Companies Together

BRITAIN TODAY Noon today **FORECAST**

SE England: A slight risk of a light shower at first then be colder. A moderate easterly wind. Max temp 4-5C (39-41F).

Chammel Is: Cold and mostly cloudy. A moderate to fresh 5-7C (41-45F).

N Ireland: Miki and cloudy, A light southerly wind, Max temp 9-10C (48-50F). NW Scotland, W Isles: Cloudy with some druzzly ram. A moderate southerly wind. SWL SE & NE Scotland, Glass wind. Max temp 7-10C (45-50F).

Nednesday will be very cold and frosty in England and Wales, with eastern Scot and turning colder. Western Scotland and Northern Ireland will just hold onto the milder, cloudler weather. Thursday will be very cold and dry everywhere.

TR A
London: A41 Finchley Rd. From Seriss
Cottage to Fortune Green, Major works at
Finchley Rd Gyratory. Until 31st December.
Cambridgealine A1 between Alcoribury
and Haddon. Construction, lane closures
and contrallow. Until 31st December.
Butkinghamathre: M40 between jurctions 1a
(M25) & 3 (Wycombe East). Three narrow
lanes both ways and a 50 mph speed limit in
force. Until 1st January 1999.
Bristol: M5 J18-19. Major Readworks on
Avchmouth Bridge. Until 1st January 2001.
Norfolk: A47 Hardwick Roundebour, Kings
Lynn (A10). Roadworks between the pullover The Automobile Association, at 50p per min (mc VAT).

noundebout and the Hardwick Roundebout. Until 13th December 1998. West Yorkshire: M1 Between J42 Lofthouse Interchange (M62) and J43 Stourton. Roedwords and a 50mph speed limb. Until 31st December 1998. Critical 315 (Deciminal 1984). Cumbria: M6 J37 Kendal. Floadworks, carriageway reduced to 2 lanes both ways with a 50mph speed first, I mile south of the junction. Until 18th January 1999.

AA Roadwatch: Call 0335 401777 for the

est local and reported traffic n

For the latest forecasts dial **9891 5009** followed by the two digits for your area, Source. The Met. Office, Calls charged at

WEATHERLINE

:: St Mary's 12C (54F) Coldest (day): Wattisham 6C (43F) Wettest: West Freugh 0.28 ins anniest: Christchurch 5.5 hrs For 24hrs to 2pm Monday 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0.01 0 0 0 0 0 0 0.03

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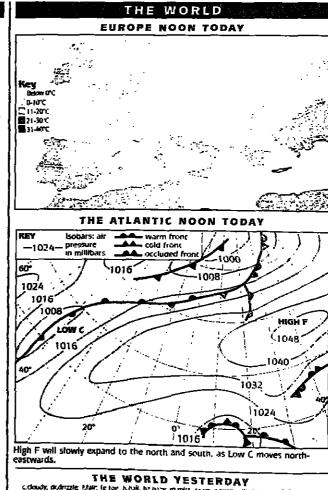
RAIN OR

SHINE...

UNUSUALLY COLD weather in Moscow killed at least 39 people in November. Winter has come early to

the Russian capital this year, with temperatures below freezing through most of the month.

Since the beginning of October, 45 people have died of bypothermia, the city ambulance service said. The majority of victims are homeless people or alcoholics who pass out on



حكذا من الاحل

Suddenly, London fashion loses its sparkle as big designers look abroac

مكذا من الإجل

By TAMSIN BLANCHARD Fashion Editor

HYPE IS always a dangerous thing, and nowhere more so than in the fashion business. No sooner has London Fashion Week established itself as a force to be reckoned with, than it seems the catwalks of Cool Britannia are cooling more rapidly than planned.

The leading British designer Alexander McQueen, who put London on the fashion map before being invited to head Givenchy, is considering quitting London's runways. "I'm thinking carefully about where I'm going to show next autumn. If I get bad vibes from the British Fashion Council I'm just going to go. I've got too much at stake. The dollar and the yen just aren't coming

In February, McQueen, who holds the BFC responsible for failing to attract serious buyers to the capital, intends to give London one last chance. If the international press and buyers do not show up next time, he will take his fashion extravaganza to New York, "Unless they change the BFC, I will leave London. I've put so much money and energy into my work and that elevates London. But they still don't get the press and buyers here. Their job is to bring commerce into London and they're really pitiful."

When McQueen started out with his collection for spring/ summer 94, his shows cost him £3,000 to produce. Now, he says, the price is closer to £330,000. For that amount of time and money, he expects to be re- of fashion houses Givenchy, Celine, warded with a whole bank of liceberg and Versace. Berardi's clothes buyers. But instead, buyers attending his London shows fill a mere couple of rows. If he showed in New York, his sales would double.

Anna Wintour, the editor of will take place earlier than American Vogue. does not con- usual, squeezing London off sider the London shows important enough to be graced with her presence and, until she does, London will not be in the same league as the other fashion capitals. Another complaint is that there is not enough. Antonio Berardi. Although he the collection he designs for quality control on the schedule. wants to keep London as his TSE New York with his own London as well. Besides, 80 per



ANTONIO BERARDI

creative base, he feels Milan is

show. Like many British de-

signers. Berardi has manufac-

turing backing in Italy where

his collections are produced.

Showing in London actually

costs his backers. Givuesse.

more than if he were to show

in Milan, Hussein Chalavan.

Antonio Berardi, 28, graduated from

the same year as Matthew Williamson.

shoes by Manolo Blahnik and his own

Mode in Knightsbridge and he showed

perfume. It sold to Liberty and A La

his first collection for spring/summer

la Tennant and Kylie Minogue. After

his third collection, he won a manu-

facturing and distribution deal with

Italian company Givuesse. He has

showrooms in Milan and Paris. His

are known for innovative cutting.

Designers have been thrown

fact that the New York shows

Rumours have been circu-

lating that other key designers

are thinking about leaving Lon-

don's catwalks. The first ex-

the schedule.

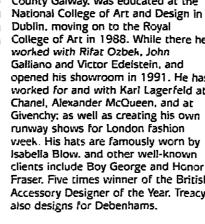
name has been on the shopping lists

95 with a little help from models Stel-

Central Saint Martin's in June 1994,

His graduation collection featured

Philip Treacy, 31, the milliner from County Galway, was educated at the National College of Art and Design in Dublin, moving on to the Royal College of Art in 1988. While there he worked with Rifat Ozbek, John Galliano and Victor Edelstein, and opened his showroom in 1991. He has worked for and with Karl Lagerfeld at Chanel, Alexander McQueen, and at Givenchy: as well as creating his own runway shows for London fashion week. His hats are famously worn by Isabelia Blow. and other well-known clients include Boy George and Honor Fraser, Five times winner of the British Accessory Designer of the Year, Treacy also designs for Debenhams.



where simply to have enough

time between his two shows.

Julien Macdonald showed his

collection in New York in Oc-

tober after he won sponsorship

from Vidal Sassoon. If the

arrangement continues, he will

not be able to afford to show in

The knitwear designer

label. If New York continues to cent of his business is in America. The milliner Philip Treacy show before London, he may have to move his own label elseplans to show in New York this spring, but he will show in London as well.

PHILIP TREACY

London's reputation has been built on young designers who take risks to launch their careers. Yesterday, at the British Fashion Council in London, the next batch of young designers to receive Marks & Spencer's New Generation mass of 40 to 50 designers" who

sponsorship were being chosen. There were about 70 applicants eager to become the next McQueen

According to John Wilson, director of the BFC, there has been consistent growth in numbers of buyers attending London over the past four seasons. He claims buyers are flocking to the shows not just for Mc-Queen, but to see the "critical

have established themselves over the past four years. British designers, although

Hussein Chalayan, who is in his late

Martin's in June 1993. His graduation

collection was bought by Browns of

clothes made from envelope paper as

left to decompose in his back garden.

with iron filings. Chalayan started to

ny TSE in spring and also designed a

capsule collection for the high street

British Fashion Designer of the Year

fluential and interesting avant-garde

giant Top Shop. He was nominated for

last November. He is acknowledged in-

design for New York cashmere compa-

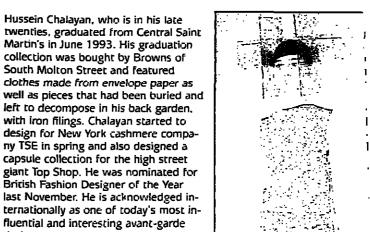
South Molton Street and featured

internationally famous, are still young, and do not have money to spend on advertising to lure the fashion press to their shows. "In terms of business. we are still tiny:" says Inacio Ribeiro of Clements Ribeiro. one of our most commercially successful labels.

While attendance at Lon-



HUSSEIN CHALAYAN



began to decline, designers such as Clements Ribeiro would be forced to move. At the moment they are contemplating putting on a small-scale show in Milan. "We don't want to show ir

don Fashion Week is better

than it ever has been, if it

any other place." says Ribeiro... "But if it was necessary, we would find the money from somewhere and go."

Protest in the cathedral 'political', says Tatchell

into further disarray by the a more logical place for him to

pected to make the break is meanwhile is having to juggle

BY CLARE GARNER

50 2 1 1 2 20 C

THERE could be 'no more appropriate time or place" to protest against the Archbishoo of Canterbury's attitude to homosexuals than during his Easter Day sermon in Canterbury Cathedral the gay rights activist Peter Tatchell told a court yesterday.

Wearing a bright purple shirt and a red ribbon for World Aids day the Australian-born Out-Rage campaigner described how, after he took to the pulpit, he was "scratched and clawed" from behind as officers tried to remove him. A church steward hit his hands in an effort to prise his fingers off the microphone. and the congregation shouted "Get out, get out!", Canterbury Magistrates' Court was told.

Mr Tatchell, 46, stands accused of "indecent behaviour in a church" under an obscure ecclesiastical law last invoked more than 30 years ago. If found guilty, he could be fined £200 or face a maximum prison sentence of two months.

Mr Tatchell said he was staggered" to be told of the existence of the law, which gives special protection to the church. Section two of the Ecclesiastical Court Jurisdiction Act 1860 - formerly part of the Brawling Act 1551 - outlaws any riotous, violent or indecent behaviour" in any church building or burial ground.

The last person to be convicted under the provisions of this Act was Nicolas Walter, a former vice-president of the National Secular Society. He was jailed for two months in 1967 for shouting out "You hypocrites! How can you use the policies?" at a Methodist service during the Labour Party conference in Brighton. He was protesting against the Government's stance on Vietnam.

Mr Tatchell took to the witness box with bravado. He spoke loudly, sometimes raising his voice above that of the pros-

OPPOSES EQUAL AGE OF JIGHTS FOR GAY COUPLES PROTEST The gay rights activist Peter Tatchell and supporters yesterday outside Canterbury

Magistrates' Court where he is being tried on a charge of 'indecent behaviour in a church'

occasionally, such as when he divert him. recalled how he had sat quietly with his Bible to while away the minutes before he staged his protest. "I read the beautiful love poetry of the Song of Solomon," he said. But most of is one of the holiest days in the the time he was solemn, likening himself to a suffragette, and the Archbishop of Canterbury to the leaders of the Dutch Reform Church during Apartheid.

Earlier in the day, Mark Punton, the verger responsible for escorting the Archbishop of said that Dr (George) Carey Canterbury to the pulpit for the Word of God to justify your Easter Day sermon, described how he was duped into making way for Mr Tatchell and his six he opposes lesbian and gay fellow OutRage protesters. During the sermon, Mr Punton stood at the bottom of the pulpit steps to fulfil a role that was once protective but is now, usu-

Mr Punton also told the

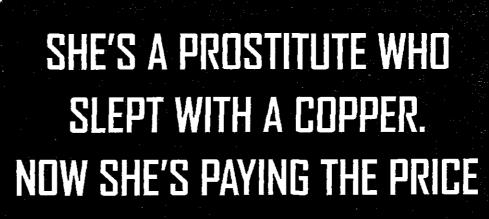
court that the congregation was "quite disturbed" that the protest had happened on what, for the Christian church, calendar". However, Mr Tatchell maintained that his "direct action" tactics had not at what he was doing." been offensive. "I didn't abuse the Archbishop or insult the church," he said. "I didn't attack the Christian religion. I simply supports discrimination of lesbian and gav people and detailed the various ways in which

He insisted that he had not disrupted the "sacred" part of the service - such as the Eucharist or prayers - but had deally, ceremonial. He told the liberately intervened during court how a man had pretend- the "political" part of the ser-

ecution barrister. He smiled ed to have an asthma attack to vice. Since Dr Carey had elected to speak on the subject of Northern Ireland during his sermon, Mr Tatchell feit entirely justified in raising another political topic. "If he (Dr Carey) had been violating the rights of Jewish people or black people, I think people would have had a degree of outrage and anger

The National Secular Society has collected more than 700 signatures - including those of Sir Ludovic Kennedy. Sir Ian McKellen, Alan Bennett and Vanessa Redgrave - to a petition calling for the repeal of the 1860 Act. If Mr Tatchell's protest had been in any other public place, he could only have been charged with a public order offence, which would be unlikely to result in a custodial sentence. The trial continues.

Leading article Review, page 3





E: Scientists say decision to ban T-bone steaks was political as tempers flare at inquiry into cover-up of disease

overnment umped gun n beef ban'

NMENT ministers had By STEVE CONNOR d to ban the sale of beef Science Editor bone before they re-

The scientific advice that y made the ban justified. ∴ged yesterday.

1 meeting last year be-Jack Cunningham, who linister of Agriculture, ies and Food, and his selvisers, the decision was to prepare the groundfor banning beef on the

as a political measure , 1ed to reassure the pubt everything possible was done to protect the un food chain

e Government has always ed that its ban on beef on Gone last December was Prion the latest scientific adth from its independent Sigiform Encephalopathy Vsory Committee (Seac). It d appears that it had made dis mind before it had re-Ted that advice.

IC spokesman for the Minin of Agriculture, Fisheries ^{al}Food confirmed yesterday Withere was an "anticipatoe reeting" between Mr Cun-

ningham, Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, Sir Kenneth Calman, the former chief medical officer, and Sir John Pattison, chairman of Seac.

The meeting took place before Seac presented its advice to ministers suggesting that a beef-on-the-bone ban was just one of three possible options that the Government could adopt after new research on the risks of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) infecting cattle bones.

Seac's latest advice, published yesterday, said that the risks last year from beef bones was minute and was now even smaller, but it refused to recommend the lifting of the yearold ban on T-bone steaks, oxtail and ribbed beef.

Sir John said he would not be surprised if the Government decided to lift the ban on the sale of beef on the bone before too long but argued that the deci-

we see the continuing decline of the BSE epidemic," Sir John said. "The risk was very small last year and now it's about a half or a third less than it was last year, which is negligible compared to what it was in the

Nick Brown, the Agriculture Minister, said yesterday: Clearly the time is coming when we can lift the domestic ban on beef on the bone. I hope to have something to say rea-

Sir John said that there was a possibility of about "one or two" cattle infected with BSE entering the human food chain next year which would have developed symptoms of the disease within the first 12 months of life had they not been slaughtered first.

These one or two cattle - out of more than 2 million to be slaughtered next year for human consumption - carry the greatest risk of being infected with BSE in the bones but Sir John emphasised that the num-



The Smithfield Show, at Earls Court in London, where the trade is hoping to see a recovery in the market for British beef

not zero and if we need to added. worry about one or two cattle then what we were doing in

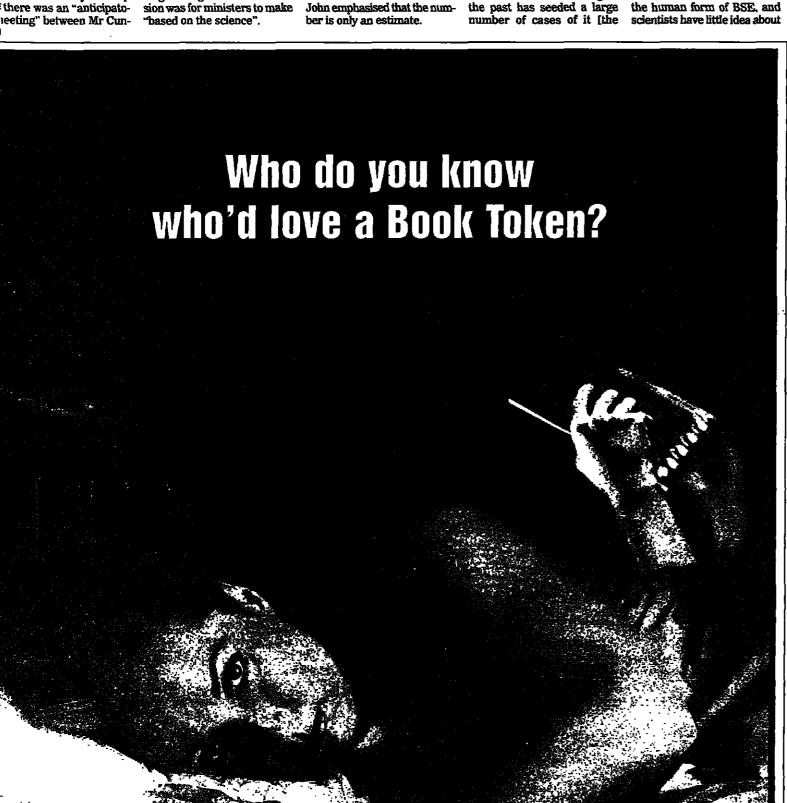
It might also be zero. If it is human] disease," Sir John

At present there have been 32 cases of new variant CJD. epidemic, said: "The next few years are going to be critical in

the future course of the epiterms of assessing the risk to demic. Professor Peter Smith. the human population." a Seac member responsible Seac yesterday also recommended that human spleens for predicting the scale of the

used for making a medical di-

sourced from countries with no BSE. Sir John said it was important to minimise the risk of injecting material from a CJD





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Ex-minister denies abattoir negligence

Technology Editor

STEPHEN DORRELL clashed with the chairman of the BSE Inquiry yesterday, over the failure of Tory ministers' to stress to abattoir staff the importance of rules banning BSE-infective tissues from food.

Mr Dorrell, the former secretary of state for health, said that obeying regulations was the abattoirs' statutory job, and that "I am not sure what more ministers can do." But the inquiry panel point-

ed out that ministers and abattoirs each seemed to assume that the claims of the other guaranteed their own actions and statements - particularly ministers' repeated claims that beef was "safe to eat".

Mr Dorrell told the inquiry in south London that ministers had assumed that abattoirs were obeying the 1989 "specified offals ban" to remove tissues such as spinal cord from cattle carcasses: "My understanding that beef was safe had two foundations," he noted in a statement before the hearing, "The first... was that BSE



was most unlikely to be transmissible to humans. The second was that even if it was the Government had already introduced the specified offals

But Judge Sir Nicholas Phillips pointed out to Mr Dorrell that "as time went by, those who knew about the subject attached increasing importance to these regulations, because evidence raised question marks over the thesis that [BSE] is not transmissible [to humans]".

But, he said, no evidence from the industry or ministers had suggested any point where

the risk of transmissibility might be higher, and that it was crucial that infected parts were June Bridgeman, another

of the three-strong inquiry panel, told Mr Dorrell that other witnesses had said they regarded the abattoir regulations as "a mere precaution" because ministers had been assuring people that beef was safe to eat. Mr Dorrell replied: "The only basis which I felt free to say beef is safe is on the basis that these safeguards were in place and being enforced. Clearly if the safeguards were not being enforced, we could not have felt that beef was in the normal meaning of the word

He added: "These were people under a statutory obligation to perform a duty and under those circumstances I am not sure what more ministers can

He said that in November 1995, where 17 cases where spinal cord had been found attached to the carcass after dressing, was "potentially se-

Student loses pool pay-out

A STUDENT condemned to life in a wheelchair after diving into a college swimming pool was told by a court yesterday that he was not entitled to damages.

In the ruling, the Court of Appeal judges warned of the dangers of "high-spirited" young men taking risks with their

hitting his head on the bottom of the open air swimming pool at the Harper Adams Agricul tural College, in Shropshire, in December 1994. He had dived

in with two friends after a disco.

An appeal by the college against a High Court ruling that the student was entitled to damages was allowed. The college authorities had denied liability arguing that Mr Ratcliff

Luke Ratcliff, now 23, of Cambridge, was left paralysed

with complete tetraplegia after bad shown complete disregard for his own safety.

Tyrone Atiba-Davies 12 accepted a £725,000 settlement at the High Court in London after he was left with double vision and loss of memory after a piano fell on him at the Clapham Baptist Church, in south-west London, in 1995. The blow fractured his skull. The deans and trustees of the church admitted liability.

IN BRIEF

Venables in clear on transfers DETECTIVES EXAMINING the transfers of four Australian

players to Portsmouth FC when it was under the control of Terry Venables, the former England coach, said yesterday they had found no evidence of "dishonesty or corruption". Although they are continuing to investigate allegations of "bad business practice" at the club, they have given the transfers a clean bill of health.

Judge seeks air pest crackdown

JUDGE Anthony Ensor called for tougher jail sentences for drunken airline passengers after hearing how two stewardesses were indecently assaulted on a holiday flight to Thailand. Peter Heys, 34. from Stockport, was jailed for 18 months after pleading guilty at Manchester Crown Court to drunkenness and indecent assault.

Heart surgeon loses appeal

THE HEART SURGEON Janardan Dhasmana has lost his appeal against dismissal from Bristol Royal Infirmary. Mr Dhasmana. 59, was one of three doctors found guilty of serious professional misconduct in the Bristol heart children's scandal.

MS campaign targets patchy care

MPS FROM all parties backed a campaign to set national standards of care for multiple sclerosis sufferers. A survey by the MS Society found care to be patchy with nearly half of NHS trusts not offering specialised treatment.



counting our blessings. Without the generosity of so many good (riends we could not continue to provide the love. care and comfort for or patients and their families. We wish you all a blessed Christmas. and look forward to your continued support. Sister Superior ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE

MARE ST. LONDON ES 454



British society changes overnight London as bureaucrats re-classify us all

through the generations. It is

bound up, too, with self-per-

ception, with the groups we be-

long to, the clubs we join and

even the religions we embrace.

Class is at once, when we are

feeling traditional, about hier-

archy and stability and, when

we come over political, about

keting classifications which see

social grade as co-terminus

with spending power in their

A. B. C1, C2, D. E lexicon. And

yet the nature of our employ-

ment has a greater impact upon

the chances we have in life than

It is wider too than the mar-

conflict and change.

BY PAUL VALLELY

EVERY ONE being British - or at least able to exercise that quintessentially British quality of restraint - no one actually mentioned the eldest son of Princess Margaret by name. But the Viscount Linley question hunger in the air at the launch of the Government's new definitions of class yesterday.

The big question, of course, was in who's up and who's down. (Teachers, bank managers, police and prison officers have risen, while shop assistants, hairdressers and plasterers have fallen in the socio-economic league tables.) But that is not the most interesting bit.

Given the exponential changes in the British economy since the official categories were drawn up for the 1911 census, some such changes in the pecking order of individual jobs was inevitable. But, though there have been several such modifications in official categories since then, the essential demarcation of the population into classes which Marx would happily have embraced - professional and plebeian, whitecollar and manual, skilled and unskilled - has remained unchanged. Until now.

Yesterday, the National Statistics Office unveiled an entirely revised set of socio-economic classifications. The new gradings reveal the rise and rise of the middle class who make up 60 per cent of the population now (compared with 51 per cent in 1984). They also reflect the shift from manufacturing to services: the cleaner has replaced the coal miner as the archetypal manual worker, shop assistants now constitute the largest single occupation group (about 3 per cent of the population) and a staggering 1 per cent of the workforce are now employed in telephone call centres.

The new categories also take account of the increased role in the workplace of women, who today occupy 18 per cent of all professional posts (compared just one step to class 4. with 4 per cent in 1984) and have only now been categorised .. Essex University sociologist for the first time in their own who led the team which drew right rather than according to up the system, sighed wearily

Professional Managerial and technical Skilled (non-manual) Skilled (manual) Partly-skilled NEW CLASS .--Higher managerial and professional occupations Employers and managers in larger organisations High professionals Lower managerial and professional occupations Intermediate occupations
Small employers and own account workers
Lower supervisory, craft and related occupations
Semi-routine occupations Routine occupations

WHO'S UP

Previously 'technical', now 'higher managerial': Bank managers, company directors, financial manage Previously 'skilled', now 'associate professional': Police officers, fire-fighters, prison officers

Previously 'skilled manual', now 'intermediate': Computer engineers, dental technicians, precision instrument makers Previously 'skilled non-manual' now 'semi routine': Shop assistants, garage forecourt attendants, supermarket check-out operators

Previously 'skilled manual' now 'semi routine': Drivers, hairdressers, bricklayers, plasterers, welders, cooks

: STAYING THE SAME Class 1 - higher professionals: Doctors, lawyers, dentists, higher civil servants, academics, engineers

Class 2 - associate professionals and lower managers: Nurses, physiotherapists, journalists, actors and musicians Class 3 - intermediate occupations: secretaries/PAs, airline flight attendants, driving instructors, computer operators, clerical workers

Class 5 - craft and related workers: electricians, ty engineers, car mechanics, train drivers, printers

Class 7 - routine occupations: car park attendants, cleaners, road workers, refuse collectors.

labourers, road sweepers

sales assistants have found themselves sliding down the

But there is a subtle shift. It slippery socio-economic pole. In any case the purpose of the official categories is not social but to assist governments in working out how to counter blackspots in health, education, with employment conditions crime and so forth, so that resources may be better targeted. It is still the case that men in the lowest category, class 7, are three and a half times more likely to die from a stroke than men in class 1 – they were also twice as likely to die from cancer, five and a half times from an accijobs previously categorised as

No statistics - on health or otherwise - are provided for those in the "never worked" and "long-term unemployed" category. Professor Rose's report wanted to place them in a class of their own. But the Government has decided against a class eight. The argument was

scribe them all circumstances. It might, of course, also draw increased attention to those who, whatever they are called, are still at the bottom of the heap - and to the problem, not of what to call them, but what dent and four and a half times more likely to commit suicide.

that it would be too difficult to

find a definition which would de

births double

By Glenda Cooper Social Affairs Corresponde

MIDWIVES ARE to spearhe: campaign to tackle the grov number of babies being gi the HIV virus by their moth-The frequency of HIV-p tive women giving birth i

"risen significantly" since

beginning of the decade. But because more than per cent of mothers who HIV positive do not know t they are infected, their unb babies are left at greater risi catching the virus. Posit women who take the test at t time can drastically cut t risk of HIV passing to their i bies from one in six to one in 1

Now midwives will assist a government campaig launched yesterday to encou age more mothers-to-be to ta the test. The number of birtl to HIV-infected women is no 1 in 500 in London generally ar 1 in 6,000 in the rest of the cour try, says the Department (Health. For inner London th figure is now one in 369.

Yet most women do not re alise they have the virus unt their baby becomes ill. Only 4. per cent had the test during pregnancy and 35 per cent afte their child was born and ap peared ill. More than 50 per cent only had the test wher their child developed Aids.

If a mother knows she is HIV positive when she is pregnant she can be given drug treatments, opt for a Caesarean and refrain from breastfeeding - all of which reduce the chance of the infection being passed on.

Last year, 250 babies were born to HIV infected mothers. This is estimated to have led to about 40 infections in babies in London alone.

The high levels of HIV infections in pregnant women in the capital reflects the substantial population of men and women from Africa. Available data suggests that around 80 per cent of HIV infections are in women born in sub-Saharan Africa.

"Having the courage to opt for an HIV test is an important first step in preventing babies being born with HIV," said the health minister, Tessa Jowell.

about how cultures accrete almost anything else, which is Buy the PC and · Snap up the camera Free

their husband's job. The new at this point. Cabinet-makers

individual or small firm owner. the sons of working class fa-

Which is where Viscount thers. "We surveyed 65,000 peo-

are generally not members of

the aristocracy, he declared but

ple across 371 occupations to

create the new tables. Do you

believe them or some anecdo-

tal exception, he said. "Socio-

economic class has nothing to

rest of us. Class in Britain may

be less hidebound than of yore

but it is still tangled up in a com-

plex nexus of prejudice and ex-

perience. It is not simply

socio-economic but is rather

You could have fooled the

do with social standing."

class system also includes a

new rank - the self-employed

Linley comes in. He may be

12th in line to the throne but be-

cause his job is that of cabinet-

maker he is now down there in

class 5 with all the other "lower

supervisory, craft and related

occupations". Unless, that is,

his firm employs anyone else,

in which case he moves up

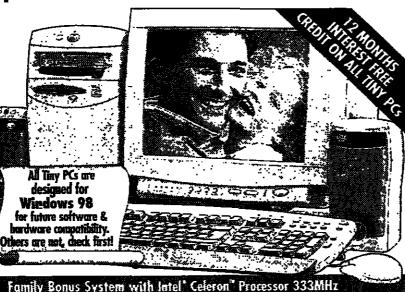
Professor David Rose, the

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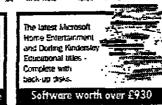
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why occupation remains at the

is not based on earnings. (On

average someone in the new

class one earns only 2.3 times

more than someone in class

seven). Rather it is concerned

like job security, salary incre-

ments, sick pay, non-financial

perks and the amount of control

the individual has over their

workload. It is because of de-

teriorations in these criteria.

compared with those of other

non-manual social class III.

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dobson gives warning over nouncil homes

NME)NAL STANDARDS and By GLENDA COOPER d to be inspection processes will bong roduced to protect vulthe sc e children and old people ymac for by social services ged yovernment announced

Jack lependent watchdogs in linist region will regulate care ies ar es and the Secretary of lviser for Health will have the to per to step in if care is not for ba properly delivered.

as a weiling the White Paper ned ternising Social Services, tever-lealth Secretary Frank domon said that at present in foorly services are not proe Gov i sufficiently conveniently, ed thaptly or to a high enough

lonthir Dobson told the Comfroms that a Commission for sory Cery English region to regappea services across the board. s mirther it is care in people's ed tha homes, residential care or

of Amspectors will have the Food er to go in without warning thereheck on standards of acneetimmodation, food and hyne. They will also be able to

se down homes which fail to ne up to scratch. lew national standards of formance will be laid down ministers, and councils will required to publish annual

ports on what they have "It matters to us all that good ality services are available." Dobson said. "And it goes der than that. Any decent soty must provide for those o need support and are unle to look after themselves. all benefit if these services provided for those who

ed them. The standards will also inude guidance on what counls should charge for services ich as home helps – one reort found some people paid rescue of children wherever nly 4 per cent of a council's and whenever their rights are pending on the service, while trampled on," said the NSPCC s in other areas paid 28 per director, Jim Harding, "He or

Social Affairs Correspondent

THE KEY **POINTS**

extended to those over 65, giving people more control over how their needs are met.

There will be a tough new inspection regime for children's homes and a better register of people unsuitable to work with

Children in care can expect "radical improvements" in education opportunities and better health services, with more help as they reach adulthood.

Eight regional Commissions for Care Standards will regulate care services, including small children's homes and council-run

A General Social Care Council will set standards for staff and there will be a new national training

cent - and inspection arrangements would be reformed.

Children's rights officers in every region will inspect children's homes and ensure that allegations of harm or abuse are properly investigated. They will report directly to the Chief Inspector of Social Services any significant evidence that children are not being properly safeguarded. But children's charities were disappointed that the Government did not go further and set up a national

"A national children's commissioner would come to the she would fight on behalf of children against a range of problems... and would ensure that children are put at the heart of Government thinking."

A General Social Care Council will regulate training of the one million workers in social care. At present 80 per cent of this workforce have no recognised qualifications or training.

Mr Dobson said the Government was making nearly C3bn extra available for social services in the next three years and announced £750m was being earmarked to pay for the changes. An additional £185m would be invested in mental health services provided by social services.

The new arrangements should make sure that anyone receiving social services help, whether young or old, whether living at home or in residential accommodation, is protected from neglect, abuse or exploitation," said Mr Dobson. Chris Davies, president of

the Association of Directors of Social Services, welcomed the announcements but stressed that the developments called for "a sustained commitment of attention and money" to succeed. And the National Schizo-

phrenia Fellowship (NSF) warned that new services were needed. "Homes have been inspected in the past and fallen well short of local standards but stayed open because authorities have not been able to find alternative accommodation," said Cliff Prior, the NSF's chief

Sally Greengross, directoreneral of Age Concern England said the charity was "disappointed" that the government was not ensuring all those who provide services in older people's own homes are registered. "Older people should be able to know what they can expect, when they will receive it. and that people who are coming into their homes are qualified and reliable."



After 70 years, the toast of Bohemia returns to Britain

THE ALPHABET BAR in Soho, BY DARIUS SANAI London, was yesterday witness to the first official tasting of absinthe in Britain since the 1920s. Once the inspirational liquor of the artistic and literary masses of the 19th century, the glowing green herbal-aniseed liquid is poised for a revival as the drink of the fin de millénaire.

Toulouse Lautrec drank absinthe from a hollow walking stick, Manet and Degas both painted absinthe drinkers in advanced states of intoxication. Other drinkers included Picasso, Zola, Rimbaud and Baudelaire.

Absinthe last laced the brains of Europe's Bohemian masses just after the First World War until it was banned by the authorities across Europe for causing insanity. At the

turn of the century, 50 per cent of the inhabitants of French asylums were there because of the effects of absinthe. The authorities had a point.

At 70 per cent alcohol, (140 degrees proof), absinthe would serve as an excellent ovencleaner, with the additional advantage of containing taugone, a narcotic similar to cannabis Taken with sugar, a splash of water and ice, absinthe tastes slightly minty, has a powerful kick and is liable to make you mistake your fellow drinkers for your best friends.

Originally made from wormwood - a herbal remedy derived from back - and pure alcohol and herbs, after the ban absinthe soon sank into ob-



Lautrec: Drank absinthe

artistic quarters of Prague and Barcelona.

Green Bohemia, a company formed by four young Londoners, has started importing the

from hollow walking stick scurity, being served only in the

indeed. "I'm very impressed." said Tony Robinson. 66, who last tried absinthe in a bar in Paris in the 1960s. "It's full of char-

liquid from the Czech Republic.

where it is distilled, and sup-

plying it, in limited quantities.

at £40 a bottle to London's most

The Groucho Club, the Met

Bar, Detroit and Alphabet will

be serving the drink in cocktails

over the Christmas season. If

the reaction of the beau monde

in the Alphabet was anything to

go by, it will go down very well

fashionable bars.

acter, like an artists' palette." Louise Kawecki was a fount of knowledge about absinthe and its effects on Van Gogh. "He had a fight with Gauguin and cut off his ear," she said, and took another sip.

British soldiers escape life term

THREE FORMER British soldiers jailed for killing a Danish tour guide in Cyprus had their appeal against life sentences upheld yesterday.

The men, who were all members of the First Battalion Royal Green Jackets at the time of the offence, will now serve a maximum 25 years.

Justin Fowler, 39, from Falmouth Cornwall Alan Ford, 30, from Birmingham and Geoff Pernell 27, from Oldbury, West Midlands, were jailed for life without remission in March 1996 for the abduction and manslaughter of Louise Jensen four years ago.

But aithough they had the life sentence reduced, the Cyprus Supreme Court still imposed a stiffer sentence for manslaughter than the average 15 years. Their merciless behaviour ranked the crime which they committed with the highest degree of seriousness of manslaughter and the sentence must reflect this," said the judge. George Pikkis.

Legal sources said the three were most likely to serve 15 vears, taking into account good behaviour and routine presidential pardons.

The sentence counts from the time the soldiers were arrested in September 1994.

Judge Pikkis said the three could not be held indefinitely as their young age and clean criminal record at the time of the offence were mitigating factors. Their drunken state was

also taken into account by the Supreme Court, which said it was a mistake for the criminal court not to consider the influence of alcohol when passing a life sentence. Louise's parents were pre-

sent for the court ruling and expressed their disappointment afterwards.

"I thought they should be kept in prison for life. I am very disappointed." said Louise's mother, Annette.

Miss Jensen, 23, was sexually assaulted and brutally beaten to death with a spade after being abducted near a petrol station in Avia Napa on 13 September 1994. Her naked body was found two days later in a

You missed er first MORPS

YOU MISSED er first STEPS

You MISSED HER FIRST PARTY

GUILTY?

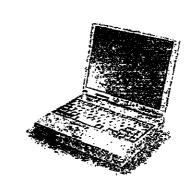


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A star is born, and begins to shine

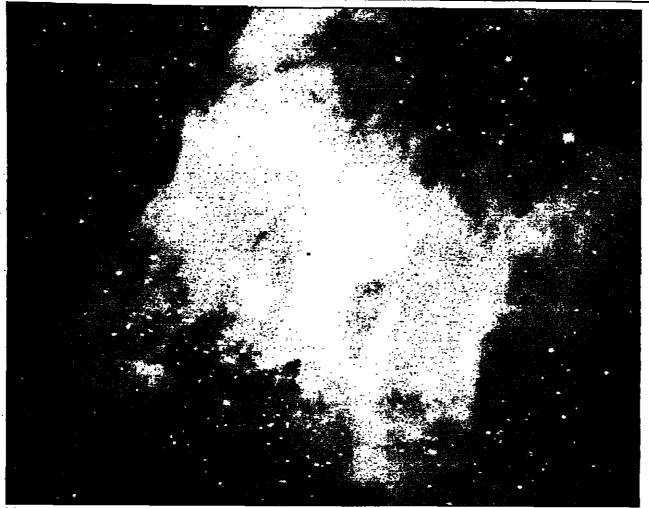
BY CHARLES ARTHUR Technology Editor

THIS IS a part of our galaxy where stars which have just been born are beginning to shine, as the Sun once did on the orbiting rocks that coalesced into the Earth.

Though the region where the stars are forming, called RCW58, lies only 5,000 light years from us - and that is almost in the same street, cosmically speaking - this light cannot be seen with the naked eye because the stars are heavily obscured by clouds of gas and dust.

Instead, the picture by the European Southern Observatory in Punta Arenas, Chile, was captured by photographs taken at the infra-red part of the spectrum.

At these wavelengths, the light is not absorbed so much by the dust between the Earth



New stars seen clearly in a photo taken at the infra-red part of the spectrum

BBC banks on Mone and the millennium

BBC1 MADE a claim for the BY LOUISE JURY moral high ground yesterday with a £125m winter schedule populism and preaching can

In a spirited reproof to ITV Ten, the BBC1 controller, Peter Salmon, announced his determination to retain everything from soaps to science on the corporation's main channel

The ratings wars will be fought by what he termed the Nick Berry, Michelle Collins and Michael French - who became household names with EastEnders - in a portfolio of contemporary dramas.

But he cited a new self-help campaign, Fighting Fot, Fighting Fit, aimed at getting the UK back into shape, as evidence of what the BBC should be all about. "This is the BBC using a unique range of resources and networks to inspire Britain to a healthier future," he said.

Among highlights announced yesterday were a

short series of films and a spedesigned to prove that cial Omnibus programme on the artist Monet. "I haven't seen ITV's winter schedule, but I don't suppose there's a lot bosses for moving News at of time given to Impressionist painters," Mr Salmon said.

And he went on to trail a range of programmes including Rewind, a millennium project in which children tell the stories of the century, and Supernatural, a new series BBC's "home-grown" stars of from the BBC's Natural History

> He contrasted the approach with that of ITV where, he said, moving News at Ten to 6.30pm was a "pretty good symbol" of the difference between the two networks. It was the BBC's "responsibility to preserve diversity at peak times," he said. "If you look at our mix, our mix is miles more diverse. We do science and religion every week at peak times. They don't do anything like that."

Casualty, to be called . City, and Bravo Two Zei account based on McNab's book on the SAS.

ring Sean Bean. Martin Kemp, the fo Spandau Ballet pop star, the cast of EastEnders v in a classic costume dr. Richard E Grant portray Scarlet Pimpernel

The children's consu programme, Short Cha moves to BBC1 from P and Caroline Aherne is to. in her own new sitcom.

At the launch of the wi season of programmes yes day, Berry, star of FTV's He beat, said he was going 4, to where I began", rejoining BBC for two years to devel range of programmes. He recently been filming Hart Lights, a drama based o

"You don't have to sell wa ing machines with the BBC. said, conceding that he i also made enough money n to do what he wanted.

Cabinet will back unions on rights

rejected employers' proposals to water down a key element of its plans for workers' rights, The Independent has learnt.

Much to the frustration of the Downing Street Policy Unit, ministers have acceded to the wishes of unions and will refuse to undermine the controversial proposals for automatic union recognition where a majority of employees are in membership.

Originally the Confederation of British Industry and the Prime Minister's policy advisors argued that workers should count towards recognition only if they had been members for at least 12 months

In private negotiations, the "delaying period" was cut to six months, then three months and has now been dropped.

11

After his concession to unions, however, Peter Mandelson, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, is furious that they are now opposing his plan to issue detailed guidelines to the Central Arbitration Committee, to enable it to assess unions claims for automatic bargaining rights. Mr Mandelson has told unions that the committee must have clear ground rules for assessing whether someone is a bona fide member of a union.

Unions fear that the cabinet minister is attempting another "wheeze" to make automatic recognition difficult. "If it is a genuine attempt to solve arguments over recognition by the simplest and clearest means, we support it.

"If it envelops the whole thing in red tape which will take more than three months to disentangle, then we are opposed to it," one senior union official

A Whitehall source, however, said: "The TUC is trying to to an explosion of litigation.

Labour Editor

have its cake and eat it. I won't accept anything that might fetter its God-given right to automatic recognition. All the Government wants is for applications to be subject to reasonable scrutiny by the CAC."

The row has prevented the Government finalising its Fairness at Work Bill, which is now unlikely to be published until the new year.

The decision to turn down some form of delaying mechanism, however, is a clear victory for union leaders. They argued that the constant turnover of labour, and the possibility that management might "lean" on employees to quit unions, meant that a time lapse would severely undermine the law's effectiveness.

Ken Jackson, the right-wing leader of the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union and the nearest thing to a Prime Ministerial ally in the union movement, threatened retaliatory action if the CBFs demands were met. Mr Jackson warned that his union would be far more selective about its financial backing for Labour candidates in a whole range of elections.

Employers, however, have succeeded in amending another critical element of the Fairness At Work White Paper published earlier this year. While the document envisaged removing the upper limit on compensation for unfair dismissal, ministers have accepted the representations of employers and will increase the cap from the present £12,000 to £40,000 or £50,000. Employers suggested that the removal of the cap would lead

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Air traffic centre hits more delays

AN INDEPENDENT report has BY PHILIP THORNTON criticised the managers of the Transport Correspondent planned £475m air traffic control centre at Swanwick, Dorset, and warned that the project, already six years late, could fall even further behind schedule.

The report, commissioned by the Government, found management methods used by National Air Traffic Services (Nats), a subsidiary of the stateowned Civil Aviation Authority, were "a long way from best procurement practice". It also found Nats' initial target opening date of 1996 centre was "totally unrealistic".

The CAA admitted mistakes had been made but said the report showed Swanwick was now "on track" and the air was no reason why safety stantraffic control was a safe oper- dards should be compromised.

ation. Nats has encountered a series of problems with the computer software and is now likely to open in the winter of 2001-2002.

In its report, the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (Dera) recommended measures to strengthen the management and warned that if they were not implemented, there was "a strong possibility that further slippage, into at least 2002, will occur

Dera warned that air traffic delays "can be expected to increase" shortly before and erational but added that there

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Speaker keeps straining MPs on tight leash over Pinochet

EVERAL OF my right honourable umbers have told me that I was urageous to put this question wn," said Tony McWalter, the bour/Co-operative MP for Hemel empstead, rounding off an iniry about Freemasons in the poe. "Did the Home Secretary iderstand," he said, that such cretive groups were "capable of ecipitating real fear?".

Mr McWalter had his back to the all as he made his point; if masked en were to attempt to seize him id bury him up to his neck at low de he knew, at least, that they puldn't come from behind. Maybe

that must already have been issued, but other MPs didn't look greatly impressed by his selfless act of brav-

Last week Madam Speaker made known her displeasure at repeated attempts by members to raise the matter of General tradition. So yesterday, despite the e now hopes that Mr Straw will as- Secretary, and despite several neuter a wayward canine.

tongues in case of reprisals.

sign a Special Branch team to pro- promising questions on the order tect him from the Masonic fatwa paper, there was not a peep about him during oral questions.

Even Eric Forth, the Conservative MP for Bromley and Chisleery. They knew that there is hurst, and David Winnick, the something far more unnerving than Labour MP for Walsall North, mandisgruntled Freemasons and far aged to ask questions without menmore effective at stilling loose tioning his name. It was an act of self-restraint which called to mind the heroic obedience of a dog required to balance a meaty treat on its nose, until its owner gives the word of permission for it to toss it Pinochet's arrest and possible ex- in the air and gobble it down. They knew, as everyone else did, that the tantalising presence of the Home Speaker has the power to vocally



SUTCLIFFE

But, later, in a far more impressive display of nerve than that demonstrated by Mr McWalter, Ed-

for Gainsborough, raised a point of lowed to discuss this issue?". order about the Speaker's ruling. He quoted Hansard, he quoted Erskine May, and the more he did so the more Madame Speaker tugged irritably at his choke-chain. "This is getting rather tedious" she said

Mr Leigh's whining became a littightened but it did not cease altogether. Since the columns of every newspaper in the land were filled with discussion of the General's future, and since MPs and ministers were able to comment freely outside the Chamber, could the Speaker Bragg was making his maiden

Yes, the Speaker could confirm

MPs, used to the idea that they have more privileges than the man in the street, looked rather crestfallen, as only harshly disciplined dogs can. To show that she meant business Miss Boothroyd later tle more strangulated as his collar rapped Sir Norman Fowler, the Conservative MP for Sutton Coldfield, over the nose with a rolled-up copy of Hansard when he too began to drift towards that irresistible

In the House of Lords, Melvyn

ward Leigh, the Conservative MP confirm that "we alone are not also speech, and conjured up a vision for Coinches and conjured up a vision Freemasons or a disgruntled Speaker. Every year, apparently, 30,000 media students graduate from universities and colleges. This is an appalling statistic and for a moment it seemed as if Lord Bragg might propose some way to stem the senseless waste of young lives.

But, on the contrary, he wanted to find them jobs - creating programmes for a new cable channel, funded by existing broadcasters as a hothouse for young British media talent. Who will actually watch all this stuff he didn't say, but perhaps that's for another day.



Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health, driving a JCB yesterday at a new development for Farnborough bospital, Kent Tim Jones

£4m grant for homeless shelters

A SCHEME worth £4m to cut the WINTER HARDSHIP number of homeless people sleeping rough this winter was unveiled by the Government

yesterday. The Housing minister, Hilary Armstrong, announced that the winter shelter programme" would help voluntary groups to provide more than 500 beds

The cash package, which will centre on London, Bristol, Cambridge and Brighton, will offer emergency hostel spaces

BY PAUL WAUGH

Political Correspondent as well as advice on drugs, alcohol and mental illness during

the coldest months. The new money was a crucial part of the Government's drive to reduce the number of people sleeping on the streets by two-thirds by 2002, Ms Armstrong said. More than £34m will be spent over the next

three years on grants to char-

ities and other voluntary Mall in central London, which with voluntary organisations, groups in an attempt to meet housed homeless people last

ing on the streets in London still John Prescott, will not be used nent accommodation. averages about 290 a night and charities warn that many are at risk if they remain unhoused at sub-zero temperatures.

A £200,000 Department of Health programme will also offer specialist help for those sleeping rough who have mental health problems.

Admiralty Arch, across The

Ms Armstrong said the scheme would offer vital emergency help to those who slept rough at a time of year when

in the programme, but other gov-

ernment buildings will.

they were most vulnerable. "People should not need to sleep on the streets in this country," she said. "Working

we can offer not only shelter winter after a high-profile launch but the opportunity of a fresh The number of people sleep- by the Deputy Prime Minister, start, with help to find perma-*Our commitment is ab-

solute. The number of people sleeping rough must be cut by two-thirds by 2002."

The new £34m programme is part of Labour's alternative to the rough sleepers' initiative, launched by the last Tory government, which spent £250m on hostel beds over seven years.

Straw pledge to reform 'absurd' Lords

THE BITTER feud over plans to HEREDITARY PEERS scrap hereditary peers' voting rights broke out once again yesterday as Jack Straw spoke of them as an "absurd and of-

Pledging the Government's determination to press ahead with Lords' reform, the Home Secretary warned Conservatives they would be defeating the will of the electorate if they voted against the legislation.

"The principle of hereditaries is seen to be completely preposterous, risible, the moment it is applied in any other walk of life... imagine as you are lying mouth open in the dentist's chair and questions are raised in your mind about the dentist's skills as he drills into your gum and not your teeth.

"You ask to see his certificate of competence. He produces one, awarded in 1860 to his great-great-uncle William," Mr Straw said, opening resumed debate on the Queen's Speech.

The second fundamental objection to their position was that they gave an in-built three-toone majority to the Tories in the

Mr Straw went on to stress that the two-stage process of reform was outlined in the Labour Party manifesto and under the Salisbury Convention peers should not oppose any proposals which were endorsed by the electorate.

He warned: "Yet we are now told that this doctrine, and our manifesto, are both to be ignored. It is undemocratic, unconstitutional, and not a position which will impress the

By Sarah Schaefer Political Reporter

While the Government believed that a second chamber should play "a most important role", there was " the world of difference between someone appointed to a position on their own merit, and someone appointed to a position on the merits of their forebears," the

Fowler: 'Disaster'

But Sir Norman Fowler, the shadow home secretary. accused the Government of wanting to create a "giant ermine-clad quango" with "appointees and placemen".

"The sensible thing would be for the Government to set out their proposals and then legislate. But that would put them in deep difficulty since they have no idea what comes next... their legislation on House of Lords reform is a constitutional disaster that should be rejected."

Sir Norman, who has led Tory attacks in the Commons

against the "closed list" system proposed by ministers for next year's Euro-elections, went on to renew his parties' opposition to the legislation.

The European Parliamentary Elections Bill will be reintroduced and rushed through the Commons this week after being defeated five times by Sir Norman said that in the

Lords too, the Government was planning a form of closed list and would be "scaling highways and motorways" for suitable candidates to appoint as life peers in the Lords. "Now we know what the former Welsh Secretary Ron

Davies was really doing that night on Clapham Common... he was on a recruitment drive, Kenneth Clarke, the former

chancellor of the exchequer, condemned the Government for devoting so much time to the abolition of hereditaries' voting rights thousands of jobs were threatened.

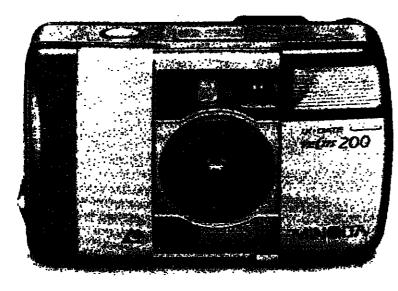
"But this piece of legislation is designed to keep dissident backbenchers happy. It is being introduced for short-term party management reasons while more serious issues of constitutional reform are being neglected," Mr Clarke said.

While he was in favour of abolishing the voting rights of hereditaries, he never thought that any Government would be so "daft" to implement stage one without asking MPs to consider other aspects of the second chamber, he added.

David Aaronovitch Review, page 3

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Call for clean up of immigration 'rackets'

ASYLUM SEEKERS By Sarah Schaefer

MINISTERS PLEDGED their commitment to crack down on "unscrupulous" immigration advisers yesterday, urging MPs to "be very clear" about the advice they gave to constituents

Immigration Michael O'Brien condemned the "corrupt and incompetent" conduct of advisers who were "making passports available to people as they walked through the door", adding that the Government would introduce regulation shortly.

He stressed during question time that the forthcoming Immigration and Asylum Bill aimed to speed up decisions on claims for political asylum and to deter economic refugees from seeking to enter Britain. Mr O'Brien said that, 584 O'Brien: Warning to MPs

picked up at ports and airports by the Immigration Service in fraudulent possession of British passports between 1 October 1997, and 30 Septem-

He insisted there would be no amnesty for people who had been refused asylum and challenged the Tories: "You left tens of thousands of asylum foreigners seeking entry into seekers - some of them genuine in a backlog for six, seven,

eight to ten years without a decision in their cases. David Winnick, Labour MP for Walsall North, said many vulnerable asylum-seekers who had paid a high price for dubi-

> surgeries asking for help. "Isn't it about time that all this sort of racketeering... is cleaned up?" he demanded. Mr O'Brien said the Government was committed to taking action "as soon as possible". The whole way that these rackets have been run is a scandal... I would say to MPs that they consider very care-

ous advice from immigration

advisers ended up in MPs'

who has just written to them." The number of asylum anplications awaiting an initial decision at the end of October this year was 59,000. At the end of December 1995, the figure was 70,000; in 1996 it was 57,000; and

fully before they decide to sup-

port an application by someone

Four-star petrol banned

FOUR-STAR leaded petrol is to be banned from sale in the new millennium under a European directive, the Government confirmed last night.

Junior transport minister Glenda Jackson said in a Commons written reply that this type of fuel would be forced off the forecourts from 1 January 2000 under regulations being prepared by the Department of and The Regions. The move cording to the DETR. Oil comwould bring Britain into line

BY MARTIN HICKMAN

with a directive on fuel quality which was passed by the European Parliament and the European Council last month, a DETR spokeswoman said.

Around five million cars in Britain run on leaded petrol, with around three million of those able to be converted to the Environment, Transport run on unleaded petrol, acpanies were devising lead-free

alternatives for four-star cars without the need to install a catalvtic converter, the spokeswoman said.

Ms Jackson stressed the new rules would allow "a very limited supply" of four-star fuel for "historic vehicles". This would probably be made available through classic car clubs. Four-star has been linked

with brain damage in inner-city children and is banned in Germany, the Netherlands, the US

THE HOUSE



Handgun owners wait for payout

A TOTAL of 23,000 people are still awaiting compensation for handing in their handguns, the Home Office minister Paul Boateng told MPs during question time. So far, partial payments have been made to 50,300 gun owners, adding up to a total of £62.6m.

More money for the police

THE HOME Secretary was accused of cutting spending on the police by the Tories yesterday. But Jack Straw said: The truth is that there will be an extra £1.24bn over the next three years." Part of the funding would depend on the police achieving efficiency savings of 2 per cent a year.

TV showcase for young talent

A NEW television "opportunity channel" to give students a chance to make programmes was proposed by broadcaster Melvyn Bragg. In his maiden Lords speech Lord Bragg called for a showcase and training ground for young talent.

Today's business

industry, economic and social affairs.

IN THE Commons: 2.30pm, Foreign Office questions; Queen's Speech debate, last day on the economy, short debate on role of Ofgas in protecting individual consumers. Lords: 2.30pm: Queen's Speech debate, fourth day on

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

TA numbers drop by 2,000

THE NUMBER of soldiers in the Territorial Army has fallen by more than 2,000 since the General Election, Armed Forces minister Doug Henderson disclosed in a

Cost of council corruption inquiry

HOME OFFICE minister Paul Boateng said that the long-running inquiry into alleged corruption by councillors in the Labour-controlled Doncaster inquiry had cost South Yorkshire Police an estimated £200,955.

An electrician wirit

THE INDEF

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Speaking in St. And Fife. Mr Dewar said the lunon settlement, lettin **parli**ament in Edicturch

The manes on party. by the Sectiond Air separa lows for adjusting his to r changing circumstance through supersons, and m sent we want to adjust settlement, the maximum place ineraid.

Alex Salmond, leader : Scottish National Factor more direct name seeds being born," he said in a sage to SNP confidete next May's elections The tination of our national pr is independence - all that be decided is the spend s

progress." Mr Salmond underlane belief that independence v be achieved in stages round by sudden upnear at - a va prevalent among his house at the party contenence that tracted the jibs. We to at lutionary neu mailets now

"Scotland is in the proce independence. the SNOW said. But to keep moving in that process we must i the new Parliament work for all who live here. "SNI damentalists who once we

MILLENNI

IS THE millennium something to laugh ar Though Peter de Jag software consultant wh tures on getting com-systems ready for the change, tends not to pre it as comedy he's der that without a sense of mour, none of us is gov make it over this hurdle our sanity intact

So he is sponsoring a 2000 Humour Contest from the www. year 2000 website. The first pri \$2,500 (£1,480) to the win favourite charity. Entrie include jokes of all kind morous short stories, so ditties, etc." although ericks which were enter the last contest are no

Worrying though it is programmers have I writing "Y2K" limer when they should have



مكذا من الاجهاز

Scottish museum opened by Queen

UNFAZED BY an ancient trum- By STEPHEN GOODWIN pet with a dragon-like head and flapping tongue appearing behind her, the Queen opened the £64m Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh yestersday, neatly rounding off a 40-year project on the last St Andrew's Day be-

Before an assembled throng of the Scottish Establishment, Her Majesty kept the speech short and uncontroversial. The museum would be a "fitting home" for all its 10,000 magnificent objects – "a home in which to tell their story for our benefit and for the benefit and enjoyment of those who come after us".

She made no mention of the striking block-house architecture of the building on Chambers Street, nor of whether in telling Scotland's story it bolstered the nationalist cause. Some people have complained there is not enough about the

(Braveheart) Wallace and

Robert the Bruce. In short, the Queen said nothing to ruffle Scots sensitivities and upset the finding of an opinion poll published yesterday that anti-English racism is confined to a "tiny fraction" of the population.

Only 3 per cent of Scots admitted to "disliking the English a lot", according to the poll carried out by ICM for The Scotsman newspaper. contrasts starkly with the 67 per cent who either liked their southern neighbours "a lot, or at the very least, a little".

growing anti-English feeling indicated by reports of an increase in racist taunts in Scottish schools. It found that the number of Scots who liked English people had risen by three points while those who disliked them had dropped by

two points. And the numb who admitted to disliking ti English "a little" had fallen 7 per cent – down 1 point.

The poli also suggests th. party political loyalties have li tle bearing on attitudes toward the English - 41 per cent of Sco tish National Party (SNP) sui porters claimed to like th English "a lot" despite thei party's desire for independence

However, 7 per cent of th SNP's supporters did admit to disliking the English a lo whereas only I per cent of Tor. voters and 2 per cent of Labour and Liberal Democrats saic shown to be slightly more tol erant of the English than men

A trip to the new museum is unlikely to change these perceptions. The approach to Scotland's story has been to tell it through wonderful objects such as the ancient trumpet rather than jingoism or an

Scotland 'evolving towards a nation'

THE IDEA that Scots will wake BY STEPHEN GOODWIN up one day and find their coun-Scotland Correspondent try has become independent without there ever being a liberating "big bang" gathered force yesterday with the admission from Donald Dewar, the Secretary of State for Scotland, that home rule is an ongoing process.

As Scotland marked St Andrew's Day with a flurry of nationalistic self-affirmation - consensus for the Parliament to topped by the opening of the have powers not covered in Museum of Scotland - Mr the Scotland Act, he said. Dewar was obliged to move "These include broadcasting, with the tide.

Speaking in St Andrews, Fife, Mr Dewar said the devolution settlement, setting up a parliament in Edinburgh after 300 years, was not rigid.

The framework put in place by the Scotland Act explicitly allows for adjustment, to reflect changing circumstances. If through experience and by consent, we want to adjust the settlement, the machinery is in place," he said.

Alex Salmond, leader of the Scottish National Party, was more direct. "A new Scotland is being born," he said in a message to SNP candidates for next May's elections. "The destination of our national journey is independence - all that is to be decided is the speed of our

Mr Salmond underlined his belief that independence would be achieved in stages rather than by sudden upheaval - a view so prevalent among his lieutenants at the party conference that it attracted the jibe:"We're all evolutionary nationalists now."

Scotland is in the process of independence," the SNP leader said. "But to keep moving within that process we must make the new Parliament work weil for all who live here." SNP fundamentalists who once wanted no truck with the home rule

Scotland Correspondent

George Reid, the SNP's constitutional affairs spokesman, welcomed what he called Labour's "U-turn" and Mr Dewar's acceptance that constitutional change was "a dynamic process and not a single event". There was already a

Europe and taxation. Labour's campaign strategy has been thrown into a quandary by the humiliation in last week's North West Scotland European by-election when the party came third behind the SNP and the Tories. The SNP hailed the result as proof that "Nat bashing" by Labour was counter-productive, a view shared by many Labour ac-

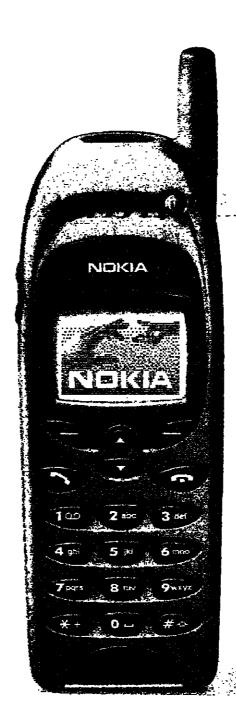
tivists in Scotland. Mr Dewar said it would be "absurd" for a government committed to modernisation to pretend it had the last word on every detail of the constitutional settlement. He also used the St Andrew's Day speech to refocus on his personal favourite themes of equality of opportunity and social justice.

'I want a Scotland which will fight social exclusion," he said. The new Scottish executive should promote prosperity to use the wealth to fight poverty. It should set high standards for schools and share in the modernisation of the welfare state.

"I want that to be our debate - not a wrangle over whether we do or do not tear ourselves out of the Union, but working together to make a stronger Scotland within a stronger United Kingdom."

Hamish McRae, Review, page 5

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MILLENNIUM BUG WATCH

IS THE millennium bug something to laugh about? Though Peter de Jager, a software consultant who lectures on getting computer systems ready for the date change, tends not to present it as comedy, he's decided that "without a sense of humour, none of us is going to make it over this hurdle with our sanity intact".

So he is sponsoring a Year 2000 Humour Contest, run from the www.year2000.com website. The first prize is \$2,500 (£1,480) to the winner's favourite charity. Entries can include "jokes of all kinds, humorous short stories, songs, ditties, etc" although "limericks which were entered in the last contest are not eli-

Worrying though it is that programmers have been writing "Y2K" limericks when they should have been



fixing programs, one also fears for Mr de Jager's sanity in having to judge the con-test. The closing date is 31 December, with the winner chosen by 7 January.

Examples of entries so far are not encouraging: "You know you've been at Y2K too long when... You watch disaster movies to raise your spirits." Or: "How many Year 2000 programmers does it take to change a light bulb? None! It isn't broken yet." Surely knock-knock jokes

can't be far behind. CHARLES ARTHUR lucation: Traditional schools overshadowed as GCSE results justify longer days, target-setting and homework clubs

Technology colleges top eague table

S YEAR'S league tables are ninated for both achievent and improvement by hnology colleges, which re backed by this governnt and the last as a way of sing standards.

Their success vindicates the vernment's support for a er school day, target-setting lunchtime homework bs, which have been pioered in the 15 city technolocolleges (CTCs) set up by the nservative government. The four most improved ate schools at GCSE on a govnment list issued yesterday

e city technology colleges. ne list is based on the increase the percentage of pupils uning five or more good des between 1995 and 1998. The top school by the tables' ew yardstick, the GCSE points core, is also a CTC. Two techology colleges are in the top ozen for the highest proportion f pupils gaining five good

Sir Cyril Taylor, chairman of he Technology Colleges Trust, aid: "These outstanding reults show how effective the CTC style of education is in raisng standards. Many of the echniques pioneered by the pilot group of CTCs are now

AND BEN RUSSELL

schools, including the 330 specialist schools."

Overall, 66 per cent of pupils at the colleges achieved five A*-C grades compared with a national average of 46 per cent.

However, results from another CTC, Harris in Croydon, south London, show how difficult it is to sustain improvement. Harris was the most improved school last year, but this year the proportion of pupils achieving five or more good grades at GCSE fell back.

The top independent school at A-level is King Edward's School in Birmingham, with a point score of 37.7 - the equivalent of nearly four grade As. The top state school is King Edward VI Grammar School in Chelmsford, Essex, with 33.5.

Some of the comprehensives in the top 20 select pupils either by interview or by deciding a proportion of their intake by a test. Today's tables are the most

sophisticated yet produced and offer more information than before. The new score aims to reflect the achievements of all pupils by giving points for every grade, not just the top three. It is based closely on the system being used by many other used for years for university en-

newspapers continue to rank schools by the proportion of pupils achieving five or more good GCSE grades.

Teachers believe that both measures are unfair. John Dunford, general secretary of the Secondary Heads Association, said: "The tables give the impression that they are comparing like with like, when it is well known that schools start from a very different situations."

David Hart, general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, said: "The tables remain an unreliable and unfair indicator of schools' achievements. As long as the five A*-C grades remain as the major factor in determining success, the achievements of those pupils who obtain D grades and below will be written off."

Ministers are refining the tables to produce a new valueadded measure, which will compare pupils' level of achieve ment when they enter a school with their exam results when

This year, the proportion of pupils gaining five good GCSE grades has risen slightly and 7,000 fewer pupils are leaving school without any qualifications. The pass rate at A-level



Stephen Vernon (left) and Katy Gaunt, both 15, in class at Jeff Joseph Sale Moor Technology College in Greater Manchester Martin Rickett

Britain's most improved school

NO ENGLISH state school has By BEN RUSSELL improved faster than a secondary modern serving one of the country's most deprived communities

Thirty-eight per cent of oupils at Jeff Joseph Sale Moor rechnology College in Trafford, Greater Manchester, qualify for free school meals - twice the national average.

Yet, since 1990, the school has more then doubled the percentage of its pupils gaining five or more good GCSEs, and recorded a 28-point increase in the past four years. Thirty-five per cent of pupils now get five or more GCSEs at grade A* to C.

Only two independent schools, the King Fahed Academy in Ealing and the Yesoday Hatorah School in Hackney,

Education Correspondent

recorded a faster increase. Jeff Joseph's achievement was matched only by Bacon's College, a city technology college

Jeff Joseph became a technology college in 1994. The school has doubled in size since 1990 and now has 1,000 pupils. It has been oversubscribed for three years.

Jeff Joseph opened in 1938, but has expanded into modern buildings on its site on the edge of Manchester. Some £1.5m has been invested in computer systems alone since the school gained its technolo-

gy college status. Schools in Trafford are high-

ly selective - with about 38 per who come in and help us hear the children read." cent of children going to gram-Mr Walmsley spends much mar schools - leaving the secondary moderns coping with

At Jeff Joseph a third of the eleven-year-olds starting at the cated measures of each child's school have a reading age of

many of the area's education-

David Walmsley, who has been head teacher at the school for the past three years, said: "A reading age of nine is the age at which you will cope with the tioned in dispatches - in the

curriculum; otherwise, it's very "We have a programme which focuses on reading and literacy which works across

the school. We help the very poor readers and we have read-

of his time raising the expec-tations and confidence of his

The school uses sophistiprogress based on frequent tests to help them set targets for doing better. There are award ceremonies and merits for good work. Children who have made progress are men-

head's newsletter to parents. Out-of-school activities also play their part. There are sports clubs and music lessons for 150 children. Some have won

prizes for their poetry. The school has also opened

South Trafford College, to help to raise pupils' expectations. There are lunchtime clubs to help children with their school-

work, and after-school lessons, compulsory and voluntary, to allow pupils to catch up. "The reasons behind the college's improvement are the hard work of the staff, support for students after school and at lunchtime, rewards, target set-

ting and monitoring of the

progress of students," said Mr

Walmsley. "It's a school where we have to work hard for the support of some parents; where we are able to achieve success the support of parents is vital.

We try to encourage teachers and students to set targets, and have high expectations." ing clubs with senior citizens a sixth form, now 50 strong, with

Important news for Norwich and Peterborough customers.

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The rate of interest for new and existing mortgage customers (in appropriate cases the basic rate) will decrease by 0.5% with effect from 1st December 1998, The Society's standard variable base rate will become 7.95%.	

to notice, the decrease notice period which we For customers parti- procedure, this interes when calcutating new in early 1999 or, in a the mortgage.	nii commence cipating in the trate change monthly pa	e on 1st he Sociel will be i lyments a	December to by's annual baken into a at the next	1998. review coount review
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SPECIAL 85				
85 days' notice				
2100,000 and over	6.98	5.58	6.22	4.97
CARt	7.20	5.73	6.40	
£50,000 to £99,999	6.66	5.32	5 89	4.71
C.A.R.†	6.85	5.45	6.05	4.81
£25,000 to £49,999	6.37	5.09	5.66	4.52
CAR.t	6.56	5.21	5.80	4.62
£10,000 to £24,999	6.08	4.86	5.37	4.29
CART	6.25	4.97	5.50	4.38
25,000 to \$9,999	5.27	4.21	4.56	3.64
C.A.R.†	5,40	4.30	4.65	3.71
52,500 to £4,999	4.80	3 84	4.09	3.26
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ETITE INTENEST ACC	6.00	4.80	5.26	4.20
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Easy access by post £100,000 and over	7.25	5.80	6 45	5.16
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10 days' notice	•			
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Monthly income	7.11	5.68	6.36	5.08
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730,000 to \$59,999	7.10	5.68	6.35	5.08
Monthly income	6.67	5.49	6.17	4.93
£10,000 to £29,999	6.85	5 48	6.10	4 58
Monthly income	6.64	531	5.93	4.74
25,000 to 29,999	6.50	5.20	5.75	4.60
Monthly Income	6.31	5.04	5.60	4.48
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78000 Euclide 0.5% or 700.000 and over	7.30	5.84	6.50	5.20
£50,000 to £99,999	6.80	5.44	6.00	4.80
25,000 to £49,999	6.55	5.24	5.75	4.60
E10,000 to £24,999	6.30	5.04	5.50	4.40
HIGH RISE Easy access			_	
£100,000 and over	5.80	4.64	5.00	4.00
250,000 to £99,999	5.30	4.24	4.55	3.64
£25,000 to £49,999	4.55	3.64	3.80	3.04
£10,000 to £24,999	3.50	2.80	280	2.24
£5,000 to £9,999	3.30	2.64	2.60	2.08
22,500 to £4,999	2.95	2.36	2.45	1.96
2500 to \$2,499	2.65	2.12	215	
£100 to £499	2.55	2.04	2.05	1,64

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tiers of HIGH PISE for belances over \$100 will be revised in accordance with the HIGH PISE rates shown above

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£5,000 to £9,999	5.20	4.16	4.45	3.56
£2,500 to £4,999	4.70	3.76	3,95	3.16
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Up to £499	3.15	2.52	2.40	1.92
HEADSTART				
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£5,000 to £9,999	6.90	5.52	6.20	4.96
£1,000 to £4,999	6.80	5.44	6.10	4.88
£250 to £999	6,70	5.36	6.00	4.80
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TREASURER'S TRUST				
Easy access				
100,000 and over	5.60	4.48	4.80	3.84
250,000 at 299,999	5.40	4.32	4.60	3.68
£25,000 to £49,999	4.40	3.52	3.65	2.92
£10,000 to £24,999	3.40	2.72	2.65	212
£5,000 to £9,899	2.90	2.32	2.30	1.84
£2,500 to £4,999	2.40	1.92	2.20	1.76
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E100 to £499	2.00	1.60	2.00	1.60
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SUPER SAVER (rates include bonus)				
Easy access				
£10,000 and over	7.60	6.08	6.90	5.52
25,000 to 29,999	7.05		635	5.08
£1,000 to £4,999	6.30	5.04	5.60	4,48
220 to 5399	6.05	4.84	\$.35	4.28
SPECIAL 50°				
\$5,000 and over	4.90	3.92	4.10	3.28
TWO CITIES*				
£500 and over	4.10	3.28	3.30	264
INVESTMENT PLUS				
\$2,500 and over	6.30	504	5.80	4.64
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£10,000 and over	3.50		2.80	_
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250 to \$1,999	2.65	•	215	-
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For more details of any

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Chief Office: Peterborough Business Park, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6WZ. Telephone: Peterborough (01733) 372372, http://www.npbs.co.uk

Site guard defects to join road protesters

By Linus Gregoriadis

ECO-WARRIORS were celebrating last night after a security guard at the planned site of a new toll road defected to the side of the protesters.

Dean Smith, 23, who gave up his £6-an-hour job after only a week, spoke out against the privately owned Birmingham Northern Relief Road, which will cut through the countryside in Warwickshire, the West Midlands and Staffordshire. He said: "Tve just had a 12-hour shift, I've been there six days... I stood there and I thought about everything that was going on and I came to the conclusion I was doing the wrong thing - I was on the wrong side of the fence. So I've come to this side, make a stance and get some satisfaction from it. The Government takes liberties,

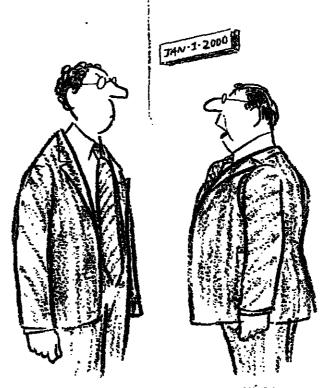
too many liberties. Mr Smith told GMTV: "I've done six days but that will now be terminated to something like £1-an-hour so I've lost out a lot but at the end of the day feel better for it." Dozens of protesters are positioned in a network of tunnels at the site along the route in Weeford, Staffordshire.

In October campaigners in the Alliance Against the BNRR failed in a High Court bid to overturn a decision by John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, to allow the £700m project to go ahead. They argued that the 27-mile road would cut a huge swath through Green Belt land, cross nature sites, destroy homes and

threaten local jobs. The road is intended to relieve congestion on the M6 around Birmingham and work

is due to start next year. Fraser Halliday, of Project Security Limited, Mr Smith's former employer, said: "We fully screen all security officers to industry standards but we cannot screen anybody for their sympathies for people like the The tills are down, the faxes are down, and the payroll's crashed.

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Hundreds of sex offenders 'slip net

المكذا من الاجهاز

ONLY A handful of the esti- By JASON BENNETTO mated 350 sex offenders who have failed to register with the police have been prosecuted. despite the scheme operating for more than 14 months.

Setting up the register and monitoring the sex offenders is costing the police in England and Wales about £500,000 a month. The total cost so far is more than £6.5m.

Figures from the police, however, show that most sex ofCrime Correspondent

fenders - 6,262 or 95 per cent of those registered in the first year - have informed the authorities about their movements.

The Sex Offenders Act came into force in September last year in response to alarm at the lack of information on and monitoring of paedophiles once they were released.

Under the Act, an estimated

6.615 sex offenders who were ei- registered have been punished some have moved address and ther being released from jail under licence, or who received a community sentence such as probation, must within 14 days inform the police of their address, or whether they have

Failure to comply with the new law is punishable by a maximum of six months in jail. But despite the publicity surrounding the new powers only a few offenders who failed to be

said that in the first year the Act was implemented, 353 offend-

Some have never registered.

Tony Butler, the Chief Con-

for the offence.

so far. Several have been jailed not informed the police, and some may have gone abroad and do not need to register. The Home Office is drawing up stable of Gloucestershire and

vice-chairman of the Associaplans to block this loophole for tion of Chief Police Officers' "foreign sex holidays". Mr Butler argued that this moved, or changed their name. crime committee with responsibility for the management figure compared favourably and monitoring of sex offenders, with the United States where compliance rates range from 30 per cent in some states to 85 per ers had not registered. cent at best.

The annual cost of imple-

exceed £7m, Mr Butler added that a significant extra expense has been the cost of policing high-profile paedophiles. For example, the release of the notorious sex killer Sidney Cook cost Avon and Somerset police

offended against children, but

£150,000 in managing public dis-There are an estimated 260,000 convicted sex offenders in the UK, 110,000 of whom have

menting the Act is expected to as the legislation is not retro-reoffending comes into po spective most do not have to register. Harry Fletcher, assistant

general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, argued: "The authorities have done well to get nearly all the names to register, but it still only represents 5 per cent a maximum five-year jail te. of known offenders."

Meanwhile, a further measure to prevent people convict- fender whose activities g of sex crimes from ed

today. The Sex Offender Oi offenders from going near s. ified places, such as schools, from specified activities, suc,

ioining a Scout group. Breach of the order, wi will last five years, can lead

Police officers can apply an order against any sex. cause for concern.

Green

quits as

pictures

A GREEN PARTY councillor ha resigned from a London cour cil after a police raid on his hom in which indecent images

Paul Thomas, 38, stepped down when the chief executive

at Hackney council demander his resignation from the socia services committee, which su pervises children's homes.

Police raided Mr Thomas's home in Stoke Newington, north London, last Wednesday and took away computer equipment and photographs of children. He

resigned his seat last Friday. A Scotland Yard spokeswoman said a man had been released on police bail until

April in connection with the distribution and possession of indecent photographs of children. It is understood detectives

were acting on a tip-off. It is not

known whether Mr Thomas is

alleged to have been part of a wider paedophile ring.

Kevin Saunders, a Green

Party spokesman, said Mr

Thomas is being treated for "a

complete nervous breakdown".

He has been suspended from the

party pending the police inquiry.

pair its image after the revela-

tion two years ago that one of

its social workers. Mark Trot-

ter, had sexually abused six chil-

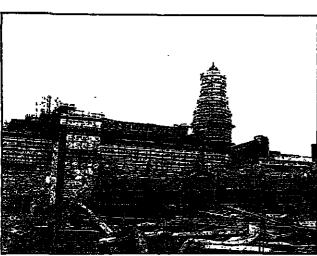
dren in his care before he died

Hackney is still trying to re-

seized

BY STEVE BOGGAN

children were seized.



Devastation after the IRA's 1996 blast in Manchester

Manchester's famous theatre returns after longest interval

AFTER WHAT must be one of BY ANDREW BUNCOMBE the longest intervals in theatre history, Manchester's Royal Exchange reopened last night, more than two years after it was devastated by an IRA bomb.

After a £31m refit, the theatre opened its doors to a performance of Stanley Houghton's turn-of-the-century potboiler Hindle Wakes - the play whose run was halted by

As a sell-out audience start- could be saved. ed to pour into the theatre, Alan Burrough, a security guard, award outside London from naif years it is the ordinary pubfund, the building now boasts a

lic we have missed. "Today we have had people coming in saying, Hello again, Alan.' That's what we've been missing. The atmosphere here is great," said Mr Burrough, who cleared people from the theatre on June 15, 1996, after police received a bomb

He helped direct up to 20 people to safety from the theatre and box-office a few minutes before the bomb ex-

the most vulnerable.

epidemics and hunger.

7

Nicaragua

Emergency

Hurricane Mitch has ravaged Nicaragua leaving an estimated 300,000 people in desperate need

Working since 1996 in Madriz, one of the most affected districts, the international organisation Action Against Hunger has been able to give basic emergency food

On the ground, our fieldworkers are mobilising all their

energy, skills and resources to bring sustainable aid to

Food stocks, cholera kits, water tanks, drilling equipment and pumps are urgently needed, Every pound and hour counts in the race against

The people of Nicaragua need your help now.

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Many have lost their families, their homes, their livelihoods. In a country where entire villages and fields have been wiped out, they no longer have access to

in Manchester

ploded. "Not only could we hear the blast, we could actually see it," added Mr Burrough, who remembers taking shelter from the explosion in a shop doorway.

The bomb destroyed all three of the 19th-century building's glass domes. At one point, engineers doubted whether it

But thanks to the largest new blue glass dome, rehearsal rooms and a separate studio with seating for 120 people.

There is also a new roof that allows scenery to be hoisted more easily. When the company performs King Lear with Tom Courtenay later in the season, it is planned that the new roof will be opened to the

allowed us to refurbish in a way that would not have been pos-



said: "Over the past two-and-a- the National Lottery's heritage A 'magical atmosphere' has returned to Manchester's Royal Exchange theatre, which reopened yesterday after a £31m refit Andrew Fox of Aids.

sible otherwise," said John Goodfellow, the theatre's senior spokesman.

"The atmosphere here today has been magical. I think it is certainly the most important day for the company since it

was founded in 1976. "But it is also important for Manchester. The theatre was very close to where the bomb "In one sense, the bomb has went off and it is the first of the major reconstruction projects

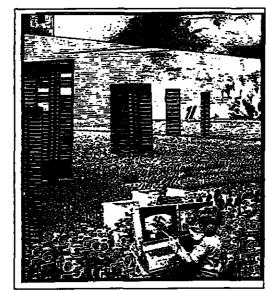
Many members of the original cast, including the actress Sue Johnson, returned vesterday to take their parts in the play, which was halted after only eight performances when the bomb exploded, causing damage estimated at £200 mil-

lion in central Manchester. During the refurbishment work, the company has been staging performances in a tented building across the city at

to be completed in the city." Upper Campfield

THE RIGHTS OF EVERY MAN

'The Independent' is publishing daily each of the 30 Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. illustrated by Ralph Steadman, to mark its 50th anniversary



Article 20

(1) Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

(2) No one may be compelled to belong to an association.

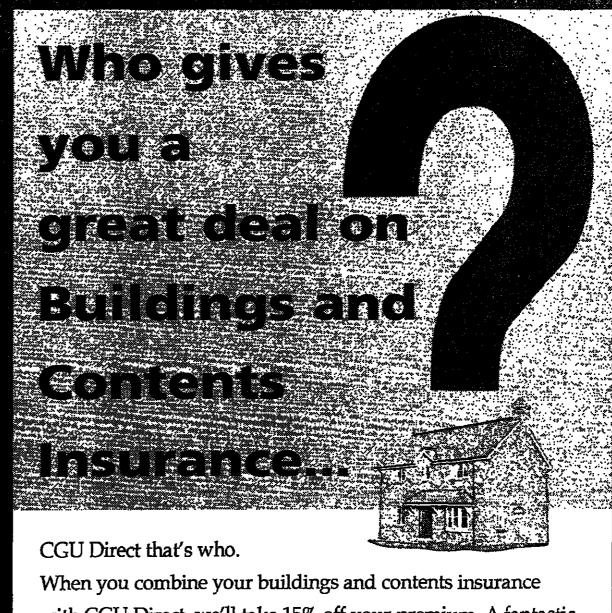
Article 21

(1) Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.

(2) Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his country.

(3) The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

A pamphlet edition of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is published by Waterstone's, price £1. Proceeds to the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture.



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Outy free may be reprieved

iany floated the idea ves- in Brussels y of a five-year stay of AND IMRE KARACS tion on plans to abolish free shopping next June. the start of the two-day ing in Potsdam, Prussia's subsequently Russia's -

conceded the Franconan political axis had nd to a halt recently. But promised a "fresh wind" in relationship and sought to mer out a common front in oming battles over Eurointegration. The meeting he first formal Francoman summit since the end ie Kohl era.

the first significant breakrugh for the campaign to duty free, the German ncellor, Gerhard Schröder, asked his Finance Minister, ar Lafontaine, to use the hcoming German EU presacy to lobby both the Euron Commission and the 14 er EU finance ministers to ew their decision.

n a letter dated 25 Novem and obtained by The Indedent, Mr Schröder warns it scrapping duty free will

EADERS of France and By KATHERINE BUTLER in Potsdam

lead to "substantial job losses not just in Great Britain and in Germany but throughout the er garrison town, both European Union. This abolition" he wrote, "is at odds with our avowed goal of reducing unemployment in the EU."

Lionel Jospin, the French

back the German call for a rethink. The French Finance Minister, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, will use a meeting with EU colleagues in Brussels today to unveil a new report showing that 12,000 French transport jobs are at risk. The French are demanding that the European Commission produce a thorough study of the socio-economic consequences of abolition. A Franco-German alliance on the issue could be formalised at today's summit of the French and German leaders in Potsdam.

Mario Monti, the European Commissioner for the internal market who has turned abolition of duty free into a person-

al crusade, yesterday dismissed the suggestion that it could be salvaged. A spokes-woman pointed out that it would take a unanimous decision of the finance ministers to overturn the 1991 decision to

But the strength of support from the German Chancellor has taken British diplomats by surprise. Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Prime Minister is expected to displayed some ambivalence to the question of an impact study when it was discussed by EU finance ministers in May. but British sources conceded yesterday that the issue was one of great popular concern.

The Irish Transport Minister, Mary O'Rourke, also said yesterday that after a series of informal contacts she believes there is mounting pressure for a postponement. "France and Germany are in agreement with having a full look at it and if possible in having an extension of time. I think it will go down to that eventually.

"There is a distinct shift of policy. The winds of change are blowing in favour of the re-



Austrians rampaging as devils and 'krampusse' (ghosts) near Salzburg in a traditional annual reminder of the 'eternal evil everywhere'

Danny the Red upsets Jospin team

THIRTY YEARS and six months BY JOHN LICHFIELD after he was forcibly removed from France, Daniel Cohn-Bendit is estabilising another French government.

The 1968 student leader, turned German Green, turned havoc in the ranks of Lionel Jospin's pink-red-green coalition in the last two weeks.

Mr Cohn-Bendit, 53, a German Euro MP was chosen last French Greens in next June's ground of Brussels bureaucra-European elections. Since then, a series of acerbic, and amusing, comments in favour of a federal Europe, free markets, illegal a force for economic, social and immigrants and soft drugs but against nuclear power and traditional left-wing thinking has ful" or "orgasmic" idea. sent green cannoning violently

against red and pink Robert Hue, the Communist Party leader, says there is a "real danger" of the coalition coming apart if Mr Cohn-Bendit is not ordered to play by the polite rules of coalition politics. Leaders of the radical, Eurosceptic wing of the Socialists described him at the weekend as a "buffoon" and a "radish" - red on the outside.

white (that is, blank) inside. In an attempt to defuse the tension, Mr Cohn-Bendit invited Mr Hue to dinner in Paris last night. Mr Hue accepted but nervously hoped his host had not invited the press.

If the Greens exceed the 5 per cent minimum vote for winning seats in Strasbourg, Mr Cohn-Bendit will become the first politician to be elected to the European Parliament from two different countries. He has set himself, and the French Greens, two far more ambitious targets.

First. he wants to supersede the Communists as the second force on the French left (which would require about 8 or 9 per cent). Second, he would like to beat Jean-Marie Le Pen's farright National Front (which would require about 15 per cent).

Mr Cohn-Bendit is a German of German-Jewish parents. He is running in France next year under the European Union rule that allows any EU citizen to stand in a European or local election anywhere in the Union.

On 21 May 1968, three weeks

in Paris

into the student protests, Mr Cohn-Bendit was taken to the German border and banned from France. He settled in French Green, has caused Frankfurt and became a teacher, an ecologist, a local government official and a Green MEP.

As energetic and plausible as ever, Mr Cohn-Bendit says that he wishes to take the European month to lead the list of the debate away from the tired cy and the dangers of the single currency (which he supports). He wants to focus on Europe as personal freedom: "une idee jouissante de l'Europe" - a "joy-

The former left-wing rebel believes in free markets; more flexibility at work; open Euro-



Daniel Cohn-Bendit, 53: **Leading France's Greens**

pean borders; reduced taxes and the privatisation of nationalised industries. But he also believes in a generous degree of legalisation of illegal immigrants; the abandonment of nuclear power; the legalisation of soft drugs and a solid, minimum welfare net for all.

Opinion polls suggest that Cohn-Benditisme, vintage 1998, appeals to young French people as much as the 1968 variety precisely because it breaks citizen, born in France in 1945 away from the traditional language and ideological categories of both left and right. One survey, admittedly six months before polling day, gave him 9 per cent of intending voters, three times the Greens' score at the last European elections.

IN BRIEF

Iran mourners in street protest THOUSANDS of Iranians mourning the stabbing to death

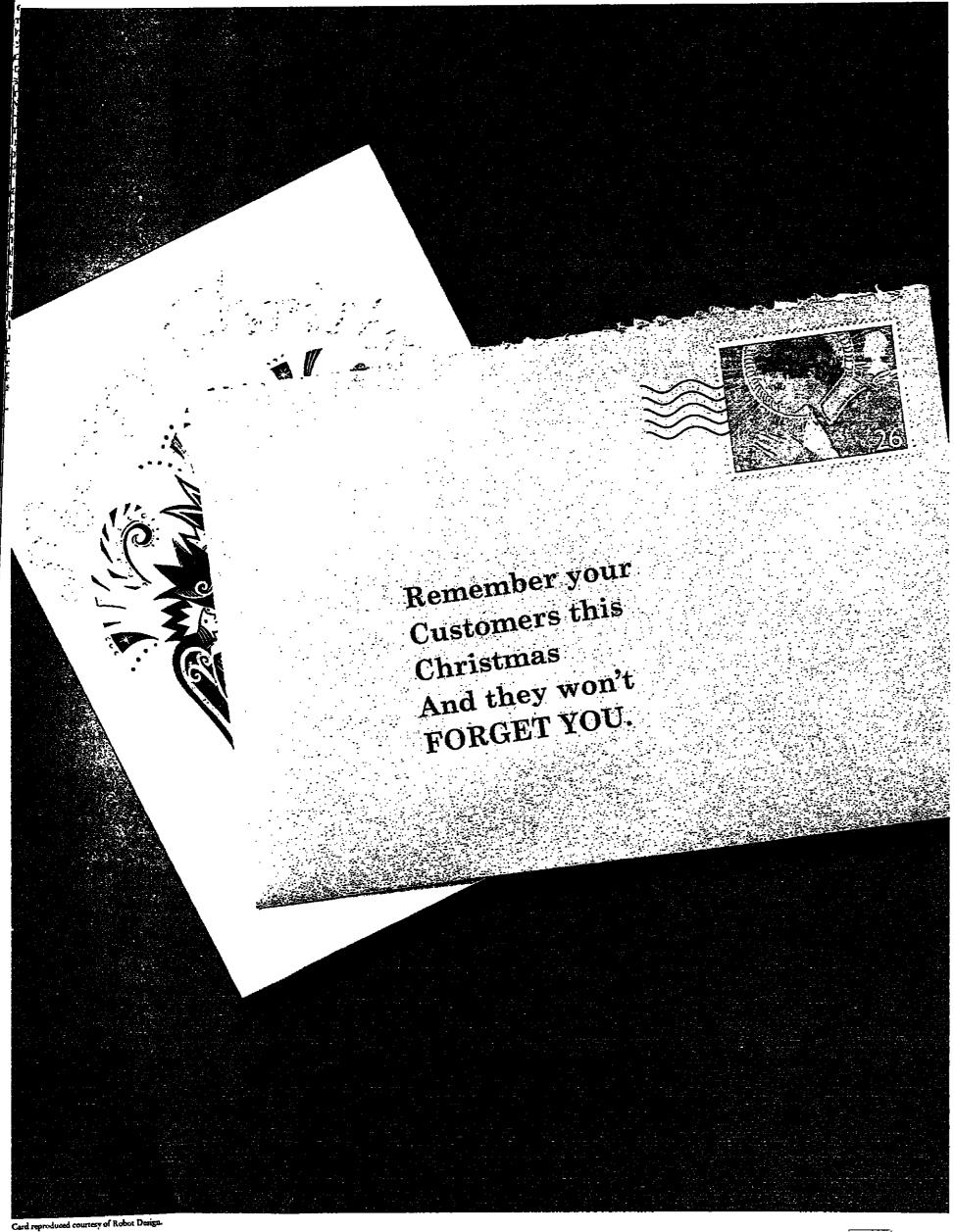
of dissident Dariush Foruhar and his wife took to the streets to call for the release of political prisoners. About 10,000 gathered at the Fakhr Mosque in Tehran.

Russian mafia 'godfather' on trial

SWISS POLICE provided massive security yesterday as an alleged godfather of the Russian mafia went on trial in Geneva. Sergei Mikhailov is charged with belonging to an illegal organisation and breaking Swiss property laws.

Police dissolve body in test

dissolved his murder victims in cleaning fluid, themselves dissolved a dead body to see if it could be done. The press yesterday accused them of not respecting the dead.



US firms 'were war profiteers'

AMERICAN companies that BY MARY DEJEVSKY may have profited from dealings with Nazi Germany are coming under pressure from Jewish campaigners.

Three years after an international outcry over the disappearance of Jewish accounts and holdings in Swiss Banks, a similar spottight is being turned on the giant United States carmakers, General Motors and

The role of US companies in the Nazi German war effort was, if anything, more heinous than that of Swiss banks, according to the author of a and buildings - including synsoon-to-be-published book who was quoted in yesterday's Washington Post.

"Switzerland was just a repository of looted funds," Bradford Snell told the newspaper. "GM was an integral part of the German war effort. The Nazis could have invaded Poland and Russia without the Swiss. They could not have done so without GM."

The report, which said all efforts to persuade GM and Ford to grant access to their wartime archives had failed, appeared as delegates from 44 nanon-government organisations converged on Washington for a

in Washington

three-day conference on Holocaust-era assets.

The conference, a follow-up to last year's London conference on Nazi gold, is to address three further areas: looted art, Holocaust victims' insurance policies that were never hon-

oured, and confiscated build-

ings and other fixed property. Discussion in the two areas of property is complicated by the post-war division of Europe, when art works looted by Nazis agogues - that had belonged to Jewish organisations were nationalised by communist

Conference organisers were confident, however, that good progress could be made in settling disputes, especially as the post-communist governments in much of east and central Europe were now more stable. The new government in Ger-

many was also seen as helpful. In advance of the conference, however, a flurry of reports illustrated the continued discord, both between US and European groups, and between different Jewish organisations. One issue relates to the possi-

ble imposition of sanctions on insurance firms who refuse to join an overall settlement of claims. So far, six European insurance companies have agreed to be bound by the decisions of the international commission set up last month to consider claims.

Members of the commission include representatives of several US states, who reportedly want to ban any non-agreeing European companies from doing business in their states. The legality of such a stance has yet to be tested.

The New York Times reported, meanwhile, that disputes had flared between Jewish groups, lawyers, concentration-camp survivors and others about the division of the \$1.25bn (about £750m) paid out by Swiss banks to settle claims. Britain is so far the only country that has disbursed most of the funds received.

In another contentious area. looted art, many works are said to have found their way to the US and France. The Boston Globe reported yesterday that a 1904 Monet waterlily painting displayed at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts had "almost



certainly" been stolen by Nazis from a French Jewish collector.

The Quebec Liberal leader, Jean Charest, greeting supporters in Montreal, Canada. Polls in the final stages of the campaign for yesterday's from a French Jewish collector.

The Quebec Liberal leader, Jean Charest, greeting supporters in Montreal, Canada. Polls in the final stages of the campaign for yesterday's remaining for yesterday remain

Tom Hanks regrets donation to Clinton's fighting fund

By Mary Dejevsky in Washington

TOM HANKS, who was one of the film world's glitterati who donated money to Bill Clinton's legal defence fund, said yesterday that he regretted his \$10,000 (£6,000) donation now that the President had admitted having a relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

Interviewed in the latest issue of The New Yorker magazine, Hanks - whose latest film, You've Got Mail is about to go on general release - said: "We gave 10,000 bucks very early on... In you out with this problem'." all honesty, in the light of events



Hanks: Changed opinions

since, it would be awfully hard to say now, 'Oh, here, let me help Supporters of Mr Clinton fund designed to help defray what could be more than \$1m in legal expenses. An earlier fund, targeted at the President's legal difficulties with the Whitewater land deal, was wound up last year after contributions dwindled. The new fund, started this year when the Lewinsky scandal first surfaced, has raised several hundred thousand dollars.

Hanks and his wife. Rita. have stayed overnight at the White House three times in the last five years, according to The New Yorker - a privilege extended to personal friends of his affair with Ms Lewinsky.

have solicited donations to a the Clintons and major donors to his re-election campaign. ■ President Bill Clinton is unlikely to testify before the congressional panel considering impeachment charges against him for his efforts to conceal his affair with Monica Lewinsky, the White House said yesterday. "I don't think it's very likely that you'll see the President appear before [the House judiciary committee]," the spokesman said.

The panel's inquiry stems from allegations that Mr Clinton committed perjury, obstructed justice and abused his power in seeking to conceal

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£2,500 - £9,999	Annually		6.30	5.04	£10,000 - £24,999	Annually	6.85	5.25	5.00
\$25,000 or more	Monthly		5.31**	5.05	2100 - 29,999	Annually	6.05	5.45	4.36
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Monthly

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C&G Instant 7 Account

Monthly

6.40

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Triple murderer trapped by TV show

RANCES KENNEDY JASON BENNETTO

ALIAN man who has been g in Britain for nine years sed yesterday to murng his parents and brother. ut the producers of an Italevision show specialising issing persons, who had inced him to return to after filming his confession ondon, are now crying foul. say the Italian police have d their exclusive.

erdinando Carretta, 36. missing shortly after his ly left on a holiday in Au-1989. They never returned he disappeared, becoming of the main suspects.

The television producers inily said they were used t their will to lure Mr Cara home and complained the police had broken a with them. It emerged night that they had wantto break the news first in the st dramatic way, by airing his fession on their top-rated. me-time show. He arrived in me on Sunday to take part in popular programme Chi visto? The subject was to ve been the mysterious dispearance of his family, who nished after setting off on

But instead of being whisked to the RAI television studios. Carretta was met at Rome rport by police, who escorted n to his native northern city Parma. During six hours of estioning, he allegedly con-





Ferdinando Carretta (right) confessed to killing his parents (top left) and burying them in a dump near Parma (centre) after his arrest in Rome (bottom left)

when he was discovered during a chance stop-and-search operation in London, he was on Interpol's missing persons file and the Italian police had no idea whether he was alive.

Mr Carretta had been resident in Britain since 1989, where he had claimed unemployment benefit and had been employed in various menial courier. Officers described him as a loner.

Police were baffled to discover him living in squalor on his own in a one-bedroom flat in Ilford, Essex, after they found millions of pounds in his family's bank account.

Two weeks ago the Italian police were informed by Interpol of his existence and visited London to interview him.

travelled to South America. The Italians were preparing to obtain an extradition warrant to bring him back to Italy. However, last week an investigating magistrate in Italy said there

was not enough evidence to

press for his extradition.

His parents, Giuseppe and Marta, and their son Nicola were last seen in August 1989 before they headed off on holi-He told them his family had day in their van to France,

Spain and North Africa. Ferdinando, their eldest son, did not go on the family holiday and disappeared a couple of days later. after having cashed two cheques. To do that he forged the signature of his father and

Extensive police searches failed to find any trace of the family. Their camper turned up three months later, abandoned in a street in Milan.

The fact that Ferdinando had disappeared around the same time, had bought a pistol several months earlier and had had a difficult relationship with his father prompted speculation that he may have murdered his family. There was speculation also that his father had absconded with a vast quantity of company slush funds, and that Ferdinando then murdered him

for the money.

As soon as he was discovered in London, the producers of Chi I'ha visto?, who had followed the case closely for years, visited Britain. They spent several days with him, persuading him to return to Rome. They insisted they had received guarantees from the Italian police that he would not be arrested or taken to his home town.

yesterday of making "a shameful exhibition" for allowing television cameramen to film Mr Carretta's arrival at Fiumicino airport in Rome. An Interpol spokesman dismissed the

criticism. Mr Carretta's lawyer, Filippo Dinacci, said his client had been desperate to confess: "He wanted to get it off his chest. He had been living like a hermit in London. He had, in a sense,

jailed himself." During his confession on Sunday night, Mr Carretta allegedly told the Italian police he had disposed of the corpses in a dump on the outskirts of Рагта.

The motive to the confession remains a mystery. In his confession, Mr Carretta allegedly said he had killed his father simply because he had been reprimanded by him, and that he had then got rid of his mother and brother because they had witnessed the murder.

Mr Carretta also apparently spoke of his family in affectionate terms. "He appears to have a double personality: one moment he is very lucid and smart - the next he is just not there," said his lawyer, Mr Dinacci.

The lawyer has asked for a psychiatric assessment to determine whether his client is fit

There remain questions as to whether Mr Carretta will ever come to court because of his apparently unbalanced state of mind and because the bodies of his parents and broth-They accused the authorities er may never be recovered.

Serbia's Adolf' denies genocide at war crime trial

E BOASTED of killing 20 or 30 fuslims before his morning offee and jokily called himself 'Serbia's Adolf". But yesterday he wheels of international jusice caught up with Goran Jelisic as the 30-year-old Bosnan Serb went on trial in The

BY MARCUS TANNER

Crimes Tribunal, said Jelisic's Nazi nickname illustrated the "perverse pride" he took "in the genocidal symbolism that it represented".

He told the tribunal judges that Jelisic had admitted in in-Terree Bowers, prosecuting terviews to killing many more lims and Catholic Croats or the International War victims than the dozen or so

Muslims and Croats he admitted to. "We will never be able to fix the exact number," Mr Bowers said, "but his victims certainly number well over a hundred." Bosnia descended into an ethnic and religious civil war in 1992, pitting the former Yugoslav republic's Musagainst Orthodox Serbs.

According to Mr Bowers, Jelisic was released from prison in 1992 by the Bosnian Serb nationalists and sent to the northern town of Breko on a mission to eliminate the town's Muslim-Croat majority.

As with most of northern and eastern Bosnia, Brcko succumbed quickly to the Bosnian Serbs' well-planned offensive in

thousands of Muslims and Croats were left trapped behind the lines of the victorious

The UN prosecutor said Jelisic told investigators he was given a list of prominent Muslims and Croats on arrival in Breko and told to find and kill

were immediately herded into camps as soon as the Serbs he said. took over a town. The detention centres were based in sports centres and factories.

A witness at the trial recalled watching Jelisic shoot a prisoner through the head while he begged for mercy. "It was my them. It would not have been impression they [Jelisic and his stand trial. He has pleaded not

when they begged for mercy."

"He was not a reluctant tool of the genocide who was being compelled by Serb authorities to act against his will," the prosecutor said.

Jelisic's lawyer argues that his client is mentally unfit to

the spring of 1992. Hundreds of difficult as non-Serb civilians colleagues] enjoyed it more guilty to the charge of genocide, which carries a maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

If he is found guilty, it will be the first genocide conviction by the court, which was set up in the Dutch capital in 1993. An earlier genocide case against another Bosnian Serb. Milan Kovacevic, collapsed when the

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Britain plotted to depose Sukarno

BY PAUL LASHMAR AND JAMES OLIVER

THE FOREIGN Office secretly helped the Indonesian military to overthrow the country's former nationalist President Sukarno in the early 1960s, new evidence shows. Their actions brought to power the now notorious pro-Western President Suharto, who ruled from 1966 until earlier this year.

The Foreign Office has always denied Britain was involved in the fall of Sukarno. But new revelations show British intelligence agencies and propaganda specialists carried out covert operations to overthrow

With Sukarno neutralised the Indonesian military was free to murder hundreds of thousands of suspected communists. Amnesty International



Sukarno: GCHQ passed secrets to his enemies

about 500,000 murders. In 1975 Suharto's regime also invaded East Timor and killed a third of

ture hung in the balance in late 1965, owing to growing military discontent, Britain sent a senior has said Suharto sanctioned Foreign Office official and pro-

paganda specialist to boost anti-Sukarno operations.

Norman Reddaway was given £100,000 by the head of the Foreign Office, Joe. later Lord. Garner to manipulate the media. Mr Reddaway, now 81. says he was told "to do anything I could do to get rid of

The former Foreign Office diplomat says the removal of Sukarno was considered a huge success. Indonesia was to become one of Britain's biggest customers for arms.

Sukarno had become president in 1949 after Indonesia won independence from the Netherlands. Western concern grew over the strength of the Indonesian Communist Party and Sukarno's policy of nationalising Western assets. The Foreign Office was enraged by Indonesian efforts to destabilise the Malaysian Federation.

unit of the FO's information research department (IRD) went to Singapore to join M16 and Army psychological warfare officers to spread anti-Sukarno propaganda. IRD was a covert cold-war propaganda operation set up in 1948. In the 1960s

it had more than 400 staff.

In late 1965, Mr Reddaway was sent to run the IRD unit. His team worked alongside MI6 officers on covert operations, assisting anti-Sukarno elements in the military. Britain's GCHQ eavesdropping agency listened in to Sukarno's government communications and passed on information to his opponents in the military.

The evidence of Britain's involvement is published this week in Paul Lashmar's book. Britain's Secret Propaganda War 1948-1997 .



Monks protecting themselves during an outbreak of inter-Buddhist violence that left seven injured in Seoul yesterday. About 2,000 monks tried to retake Chogye Temple, which had been seized by dissidents

How counter culture can save our soul

STREET LIFE

SAMOTECHNY LANE, MOSCOW

WHAT'S THIS jungle here?" demands the customer. "That's just Marifat, warming herself," says the shop as-

"It's like hacking your way through the Amazon to get to the fish fingers," says the

We are in the Olla minimart at the bottom of to your superiors and kick Samotechny Lane. The Azeri your inferiors. owner has placed a small, plastic palm tree just inside the doorway to welcome the customers. Under the palm tree stands Marifat, our local herb seller, holding up bunch-

She is blocking the gangway, it has to be said. On the created. other hand, it is minus 15C outside, where this poor Uzbek grandmother usually stands. It is so cold that she has to keep her parsley, were forced into shop work brought up fresh from because they could not make Tashkent, wrapped in

scarves inside a bag. The shop assistant, a friendly young man called Sergei, has taken pity on her. He tries to cajole the customer. "Let me get those fish fingers for you, sir."

It does not cost much to be considerate, you might think However, in the former Soviet Union, rudeness is more that the rules were different often the rule. The Ukrainian here, jostled and cursed. press reported recently that a woman had lost her eye after a fight at a market. She dropped a jar of mayonnaise and refused to pay for it. The taken over and is always enraged trader stabbed her in obliging, even when he is exthe eye with a shard from the hausted. He treats each cus-

bottle. Life in Russia is a constant struggle. Even if you have lems in Russia," he says. enough to eat and can afford winter boots, it is a tiresome even more difficult by being battle with quotidian problems. There is no toilet paper in the shops today. The gas crisis, the philosophy has goes out, so you have an ice- paid off. While other supercold bath. The bureaucrat markets have gone to the you need to see is always having lunch in the only time you ed loyal to the friendly miniare available. It is all too mart. They may not realise it easy to vent your frustration but, by their small acts of deon your fellows.

vailing culture seems to de-

Russians are wonderfully warm and hospitable to their friends but churlish to people they do not know. (They think we are superficially polite but cold in our friendships.) In Russia, to be courteous is to show weakness. Power is everything. You must grovel

All of which is why the Olla mini-mart is very special. If democracy must grow from below rather than being imposed from above, then this is a workshop of democracy. It is all thanks to the culture of respect the assistants have

opened, two young women greeted the customers. Both teachers, Teresa and Irina ends meet. Instead of sulking, they began, as they put it, "educating the public" by being unfailingly pleasant. The customers found they enjoyed it

and flocked to the shop. Although the imported groceries were expensive, there was always a queue at the counter. Only new customers, who had not learnt

Now the teachers-turnedshops girls have gone to become governesses abroad. Sergei, a former miner, has tomer as an individual

"We have so many prob-"Why should we make things nasty to each other?"

In the midst of economic wall, customers have remaincency, the staff of this corner More than that, the pre- shop are changing the world. HELEN WOMACK

reliable (11'lareba) adj. able to be trusted, dependable. -re lia bility or re liableness n.

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BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Rise in house prices slows down

HOUSE PRICES are rising at their slowest annual rate for more than two years, according to the Nationwide's monthly house price index. Seasonally adjusted figures showed the average house price rising by just 0.1 per cent in November. Annual house price inflation is running at 6.9 per cent, its lowest level since September 1996.

Nationwide said the figure represented a 6 per cent drop on the 14 per cent peak recorded in the first three months of the year.

Much of the recent slowdown has been due to the fall in consumer confidence since mid-year, rather than an inability on the part of housebuyers to enter the market." said David Parry, divisional director of the society.

Halifax said its own index of house prices, published today, was likely to show "a very small rise or even a slight fall" in house prices. This was because in October, Halifax recorded a 1.2 per cent rise in prices - now thought to be a

RJB secures £1.4bn contract



RJB, BRITAIN'S biggest coal producer (led by chief executive Richard Budge, left), last night secured a a £1.4bn deal to supply 50 million tonnes of coal to Eastern Group, Britain's third biggest generator, over the next 10 years.

Eastern, which has already contracted to buy 12 million tonnes over the next three years, has agreed to take a further 16

million tonnes between now and 2003 and an extra 21 million tonnes between 2003 and 2009, provided it gets permission to fit environmental clean-up kit to its West Burton station in Nottinghamshire. The agreement will increase RJB's annual supplies to Eastern from 4 million to 7 million tonnes over the next three years

Consumer credit still growing

CONSUMER CREDIT increased by £1.2bn in October. This was slightly down on the previous month but still growing at a robust annual rate of 17.2 per cent, according to Bank of England figures yesterday. Mortgage lending rose £2.1bn, also little changed compared with September, while the number of new loan approvals rose by 6,000 to 86,000. The figures were stronger than analysts had expected. There is little sign yet of a downturn in consumer borrowing as the economy slows.

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Ipdex	Close	Change C	hauge(%)	52 wk <u>high</u> !	i2 wk low Yl	
FTSE 100	5743.90	-100.30	1,72	6183.70	4599.20	3.27
FTSE 250	4901.70	-24.30	-0.49	5970.00	4247.00	4.71
FTSE 350	2721.60	-42.00	-1.52	2969 10	2210.40	3.49
FTSE All Share	2626.86	-38.94	1.46	2886.52	2143.53	3.54
FTSE SmallCap	2065.00	-5.90	-0.29	2793.80	1834.40	4.07
FTSE Fledgling	1140.10	-2.40	-0,21	1517.00	1046.00	0.00
FTSE AIM	816.30	2,20	0.27	1146.90	761.30	0.00
FTSE EBLOC 100	962.93	-26.62	-2.69			
Dow Jones	9221.60	-113.03	-1,21	9380.20	7400.30	1.62
Nikkei	14883.70	-185.69	-1,23	17352.00	12787.00	0.98
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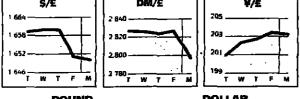
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		at 5p

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index	3 mouth	Yr chg	1 Year	Yr chg	10 year	Yr chg	Long bond	Yr chg
UK	6.88	-0.87	6 38	-1.55	4.69	-1.81	4.40	-1.99
US	5.28	-0 62	5.13	-0.89	4.74		5.09	
Japan	0.42	-0 18	0.50	-0.17	1.09	-0.88	1.77	-0.85
Germanu	1 65	-0 11	3.46	-0.63	4.00	-1 46	683	-1 71

CURRENCIES



POUND			DULLAR				
	at 5pm	Change	Yr Ago		at Spm	Change	Yr Ago
	1 6496	-0.31c	1.6451	Sterling	0.6062	+0.11p	0.6078
<u>. </u>	2.7964	-3.49pf	2.9743	D-Mark	1.6950	-1.75pf	1.7987

Dollar	1 6496	-0.31c	1.6451	Sterling	0.6062	+0.11p	0.6078
D-Mark	2.7964	-3.49pf	2.9743	D-Mark	1.6950	-1.75pf	1.7987
Yen	203.10	-¥0.33	215.94	Yen	123.15	+¥0.03	130.5B
£ index	101,60	+0.00	105.00	\$ index	107.60	+0.00	107.30

OTHER INDICATORS

Brent Oil	(S) 10,30	-0 <u>.44</u>	18 <u>.97</u>	<u>GDP</u>	115.40	3.00	112,04	Dec
Gold (S)								
Silver (S)	4.93	-0.01	5.30	Base				
					COLID	~F. F		*at 5pt

TOURIST RATES

Australia (\$)	2.5261	Mexican (nuevo peso)	14.97
Austria (schillings)	19.29	Netherlands (guilders)	3.0940
Belgium (francs)	56.72	New Zealand (\$)	2.9991
Canada (\$)	2.4745	Norway (krone)	12.16
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8083	Portugal (escudos)	279.36
Denmark (krone)	10.49	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6.0224
Finland (markka)	8.3718	Singapore (5)	2.6062
France (francs)	9.2193	Spain (pesetas)	233.45
Germany (marks)	2.7590	South Africa (rands)	9.0878
Greece (drachma)	461.91	Sweden (krone)	13.19
Hong Kong (\$)	12.41	Switzerland (francs)	2.2732
ireland (punts)	1.1013	Thailand (bahts)	54. <u>76</u>
Indian (rupees)	63.33	Turkey (lirasi)	48 <u>1</u> 597
Israel (shekels)	6.4082	USA (\$)	1.6145
Italy (lira)	2731		
Japan (yen)	200.39	Rates for indication purpo	ses only

6.0224

Source: Thomas Cool

Malavsia (ringgits)

Turmoil as Shell and Texaco abandon alliance

THE OIL SECTOR was thrown BY MICHAEL HARRISON into fresh turmoil yesterday after Shell and Texaco abandownstream European operations, and reports suggested Aquitaine and Total are to form an alliance with Petrofina of merger. Belgium.

marketing of oil products doned plans to merge their prompted speculation that the two groups could be lining up full merger partners folthat the French oil groups Elf lowing the BP-Amoco deal and the impending Exxon-Mobil

Shell would have had an 88 The decision by Shell and per cent stake in the venture panies said they had ended nalisation programme. which Texaco to scrap their joint ven- with Texaco, which was an- talks on forming an alliance will result in 3,000 job losses ture in manufacturing and nounced in September, and after deciding it would not and the closure of four head-

throughout Europe. petrol stations, - including clined to elaborate on what more than 1,500 in Britain - 19 these were. refineries and 16 lubrication plants.

fining and petrol retailing Shell spokesman added that Shell Mex House in London. nancier Albert Frere was close several areas of concern had The merger would have cre- been identified on the part of isting venture with Texaco in in the Belgian oil group folated a business with 16,000 both companies but he de- the United States.

the Texaco alliance would not speculation that they were In a statement, the two com- affect its own European ratio-

Meanwhile, shares in both Total and Elf made strong Shell said that the failure of gains on the Paris bourse amid poised for a tie-up with Petrofina. Total was up 3.5 per cent and Elf 1.5 per cent.

The rise followed a report in

would have covered both re- maximise shareholder value. A quarters offices - including Belgium saying that the fi-Nor would it affect Shell's ex- to selling his 30 per cent stake lowing weekend negotiations with Elf and Total.

Shares in Petrofina were suspended pending a statement while Total is due to issue a statement this morning following a meeting of its supervisory board yesterday

French

London

power

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

THE STATE-OWNED French

electricity supplier, Electricite

de France, yesterday won the

auction for London Electricity

with a £1.9bn bid but immedi-

ately ran into concerns over

whether the deal would get

condition that Entergy, the US

owners of London Electricity,

paid a "break fee" of around

£50m in the event that the busi-

ness was sold to the other re-

maining bidder in the race,

British Energy is understood

to have raised its offer for the

second time last Friday but it was not enough to top the bid by EdF, one of the world's largest utilities with revenues of

£20bn and 45 million customers.

£480m of debt, making a total purchase price of £1.87bn. This compares with the £1.5bn, including debt, that Entergy paid for London when it bought the

business in December 1996. The French offer is not conditional on regulatory clearbefore the end of this month. Because it is a large cross-border acquisition, the deal automati-

cally goes to Brussels for

EdF is paying £1.39bn for London and assuming a further

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British Energy.

regulatory clearance. EdF secured victory after agreeing to increase its offer on

win



Rolf Breuer (left), chairman of Deutsche Bank, shaking hands with Frank Newman, chairman of Bankers Trust, in Frankfurt yesterday AP

Deutsche-Bankers deal threatens 3,000 City jobs

THERE WERE fears yesterday that up to 3,000 jobs could go in the City after Deutsche Bank unveiled a \$10bn merger with Bankers Trust of America to create the world's biggest bank.

Speaking at a news conference in Frankfurt to announce the deal, Deutsche Bank chief executive Rolf Breuer said that 5.500 staff will be cut, with the axe falling mainly in London and New York.

The jobs cull could be the biggest the City has seen, eclipsing the 2.500 jobs lost in the City following last year's merger between Union Bank of Switzerland and Swiss Bank Corporation - at the time the largest European banking

The cuts which were far larg-

RUGBY GROUP, the UK building

materials supplier, yesterday

said it was cutting 400 jobs at

its Doncaster and Gloucester

plants and warned that poor

trading conditions and compe-

tition from cheap imports were

indicated a slowdown in de-

mand earlier in the year, the

news took the City by surprise,

with the share price tumbling

Although the company had

eroding profits.

BY ANDREW GARFIELD Financial Editor

pect will be spread evenly between global fixed income, global equity, domestic equity and support services, including IT and personnel. There will be no cuts in Germany.

Mr Breuer denied the bank was planning to favour staff at Deutsche which employs 6,000 in London over those at Bankers Trust, which has 2,500, many former NatWest Markets staff employed under the BT Alex Brown umbrella

Deutsche said that it plans a one-off charge of \$1.2bn to cover severance payments. In addition it will set aside \$400m for golden handcuffs to lock in staff who they fear might walk. That raiser than staff had been led to ex- es the total cost of the acquisi-

By SIMON DUKE

cent down at 82p.

by as much as 15 per cent dur-

ing the day, before closing 8 per

Rugby, which employs 3,300

talks with unions yesterday,

people, commenced formal

and said it hoped to have com-

pleted the redundancies by the

The company added that

tion for Deutsche to \$11.7bm. The \$10bn headline figure includes \$600m to cover the cost of buying out Bakers Trust's executive option scheme.

Deutsche plans a 4bn German mark rights issue to fund the deal. The bank also says that it will raise unspecified amounts from the issue of bonds, convertible warrants, assets sales and the sale of warrants convertible into shares held by Deutsche Bank in other companies including Daimler-Chrysler, the auto giant and Allianz the German insurer

Dr Breuer said that the merger would lead to savings of \$1bn a year from 2001. Return on equity would rise from 22.2 per cent now to at least 26 per cent in 2001.

The deal will create the markets in the UK and Alex the deal by May next year.

Rugby cuts jobs after profits warning

ond quarter of the year has con-

tinued into the second half. As

a result, UK joinery profitabil-

ity has not shown the im-

tivity is the manufacturing of

wooden building products, has

been affected by the general

slowdown in the UK housing

sector. There has also been a

Rugby, whose primary ac-

provement expected".

largest bank in the world with a balance sheet of \$834bn. \$688bn of assets under management and 96 442 staff.

The deal fulfils Deutsche's longstanding ambition to acquire a sizeable presence in the US. But it falls short of achieving Deutsche's ultimate dream of breaking into the charmed circle of so-called bulge bracket banks which dominate Wall Street.

Bankers Trust has a strong corporate lending business and has a large presence in bonds and foreign exchange but it has been badly hit by the recent financial crisis and is still trying to put together a credible mergers and acquisitions advisory business out of a string of acquisitions, including NatWest

that began to emerge in the sec-sumers moving away from tra- to renew the £40m contract

ditional wooden windows and

doors, towards PVC products.

given a boost to imports, with

Rughy losing significant market

share to cheaper Latin Amer-

The company also said that

the cessation of its contract with

the Jewson/Harcros retailing

chain had hit profits. It is be-

ican producers.

The strength of sterling has

US. Analysis said that both banks have been dealing with weak hands. In the third quarter, when the emerging markets crisis was at its worst, Bankers slumped to a loss of \$488m while Deutsche's investment banking business made just

Brown and Wolfensohn in the

\$41m_ Dr Breuer brushed aside the critics yesterday: "Bankers Trust was an excellent fit. It was our first and best choice."

However senior Deutsche executives have made little secret of their hope that once this deal is integrated Deutsche will be in a strong position to make a further acquisition - this time of top tier firm like Morgan Stanley or Merrill Lynch.

Deutsche hope to complete

due to price demands, which

would have resulted in Rugby

in revenue had not been as suc-

Plans to make good this loss

losing money on the deal.

to the statement.

But Peter Mandelson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, can ask for jurisdiction to be handed back if he feels there are sufficient grounds for it to be examined by British competition authorities. There are concerns that EdF is state-owned, and therefore could not be bought by a UK

company, and that it already accounts for 6-7 per cent of the UK electricity market through the interconnector linking France and Britain, Mr Mandelson has recently criticised the fact that the interconnector largely runs

The deal could be brought back for vetting in the UK on grounds of national security or because of its effect on a "distinct market". Advisers to EdF disclosed yesterday that it had received a dispensation from Brussels to proceed with an unconditional offer - which is not allowed under Commission rules - without fear of subsequently being fined. Jack Cizain, managing director of EdF International, said Brussels should clear the deal because it did not pose an threat to competition in Europe.

Even if the bid is ruled on in cessful as expected, according Brussels the electricity regulator, Offer, still has to approve Analysts have slashed profthe transfer of London Elecit forecasts by £10m to £73m. tricity's licence to EdF, giving and believe that the redunthe UK authorities the chance dancies will cost the company to extract concessions.

Outlook, page 17

"the decline in the UK market shift in demand, with con- lieved that Rugby decided not 25m.

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

SHARES CLOSED sharply lower vesterday, after a weak opening on Wall Street sparked a late round of profit-taking and pushed Footsie

back below the 5,800 barrier. The FTSE-100 index ended the day 110.3 lower at 5743.9, mirroring the Dow's opening loss. The smaller indices proved more resilient. The Mid Cap finished 24.3 lower at 4901.7, while the Small Cap fell 5.9 to 2065.0. Speculation of corporate activity and positive analysts' comment on Kingfisher sent the retail giant over 5 per cent

higher. Market Report, page 21

NEW YORK

STOCKS pulled back from record levels in light trading, as investors took a more cautious view of the economy and stock market. At midday the Dow Jones was down 115 points to 9,217 while Nasdaq, where many technology stocks trade, fell 31 points or 1.56 per cent to 1,985. Earlier, heavy selling of Internet stocks had sent

it down by more than 2 per cent. US Treasuries were up sharply as some assets were reallocated from stocks, with the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond up a full point, to yield 5.10 at midday.

● TOKYO

THE NIKKEI fell 185.69 points, or 1.23 per cent, to close at 14,883.70 in light trading as technical dealers tried to push the market low enough to fill a price gap of roughly 125 points. created after Japanese markets were closed on 23 November while overseas markets traded.

The gap starts at 14,779.94 and ends at 14,904.20. "On a day when there's very little fundamental news, the gap tends to get focused on," said a trader. Sega Enterprises rose over 3 per cent after reporting its new 128-bit Dreamcast game player sold out.

PARIS

THERE WAS a late hard landing with the CAC-40 index closing down 2.72 per cent at 3,843.38, off an intra-day high of 3,983, as profit-taking in US stocks sparked selling amid stocks boosted by merger rumours. Oil stocks Total and Elf Aquitaine shed early gains made on reports either was seeking a stake in Belgian petrochemicals company Petrofina. Rhone-Poulenc closed down 3.24 per cent after it and Germany's Hoechst confirmed they would hold a joint news

conference today in Strasbourg.

FRANKFURT

THE XETRA DAX index closed down 133.07 points, or 2.58 per cent, at 5,026.14 as the dollar gave way, slipping almost two pfennigs, and Wall Street began trading down. Traders said the euphoria over the recent spate of mergers was winding down. The floor DAX fell 1.93 per cent to 5.022.70, while the dollar was holding above DM1.69 after starting the day above DM1.71. A weaker dollar cuts German exporters' earnings when they convert dollars to marks and makes their goods more expensive abroad.

Iwo also-rans don't make a winner

مكذا من الاحيان

IST Teutonic determination which is driving Deutsche Bank, or just empire-building madness? Morgan Grenfell was one of the top merchant banks in the City when Deutsche took it over in the late 1980s. Nobody would recognise it as that today, despite the hundreds of millions of pounds poured into it and the capital put behind it. It hasn't all been Deutsche Bank's

fault, but a once great City house has been reduced to an also-ran. Even its name has been largely erased from the landscape. Rather than seeing this debacle for what it is - a cockup of considerable proportions -Deutsche blames it on Morgan Grenfell being too small to compete, particularly in the all-important US investment banking market. To correct the position, it is now buying Bankers Trust, which at least has the merit of already being an also-ran, both in the UK and the US.

Will two also-rans make a top dog? It hasn't so far worked at Warburg Dillon Read, which is still in a state of profound post-surgical shock after last year's merger with UBS. The pain of this latest City merger is likely to be even worse. Obviously, for employees there is nothing other than a P45 in these huge con-

lon



OUTLOOK

solidating mergers, while it goes without saying that clients and customers rarely gain a dime. But it is not clear that shareholders get anything out of them either, long term.

Deutsche reckons that tradeable securities are now so much a part of global banking that it cannot be a serious bank without an investment banking presence. Just try that one on Sir Brian Pitman, chairman of Lloyds TSB.

Taylor/Barclays

IF IT was not apparent to the Barclays board on Friday that Martin Taylor's shock resignation as chief

into crisis, it must be by now. The more that becomes known about Mr Taylor's progressive alienation from his fellow directors, the more shambolic and worrying the situation at Barciays appears.

Obviously the bank is not about to go under, and indeed, compared to the same stage of the last cycle, Barclays seems operationally to be in good shape. What the management crisis has exposed, however, is a corporate governance issue of scandalous proportions. By the end, the number of executives on the board involved in day-to-day management amounted to just three, including Mr Taylor. The rest of the board seems to be largely comprised of friends of

Andrew Buxton, the chairman. At least three of these, including Mr Buxton, are there on a virtually full-time "executive" basis, yet apart from drawing large salaries and occupying big offices, with corresponding secretarial back-up, it's hard to know what their purpose is.

One thing that directors in this position do is scheme, meddle and stop the chief executive doing what he wants to do. Mr Taylor found himself blocked at every turn. His

executive would plunge the bank board suspected him of leaking to tail bank was prevented from purthe press to bulldoze his proposals suing an appropriate consolidating through, he suspected them of leaking in order to undermine him.

> With Sir Andrew Large's elevation into another "phantom" executive position last May, the situation became untenable. Sir Andrew behaved like a corporate commissar, double checking the chief executive's every move and arranging his own independent meetings with

management and advisers. Sir Andrew's manoeuvrings so alienated other senior executives that when the job as chief executive did become vacant, he was passed over in favour of a compromise candidate, Sir Peter Middleton. Sir Andrew may have succeeded in finally driving Mr Taylor out, but he put paid to his own chances in the process.

The board's apparent failure to deal with these waring factions is bad enough. A more serious charge is that the board stood between Mr Taylor and the pursuit of shareholder value. Mr Taylor believed strongly that Barclays Capital, the bank's investment banking arm. had become a drag on the company's stock valuation.

This in turn meant that the re-

merger - with, say, Halifax - on ad vantageous terms. The way forward was therefore to sell or hive off Barclays Capital, possibly in con-

junction with the rest of the bank's

corporate business. The rest of the board thought this approach too radical; several directors believed a bank of Barclays' stature must in any case have an investment banking arm. To some extent it became a vestiges of empire versus shareholder value argument. But it was also an us and him thing. Mr Taylor never entirely fitted. The City must make up its own mind on who was right, but cer-

tainly what remains of the board

seems to lack any kind of coherent

alternative strategy.
A corporate finance solution to the management and strategy vacuum would still seem like the best outcome. George Mathewson, chief executive of Royal Bank of Scotland, would for one gladly reverse his bank into Barclays if he could manage it out of Edinburgh. So would Halifax. But having blocked so much else, the board is undoubtedly too proud to consider anything of the sort. After all, there are those salaries to defend.

French electricity

THE FRENCH have succeeded in stitching up both British Energy and the European Commission to win the auction for London Electricity. But whether the Trade and Industry Secretary Peter Mandelson will be so easily outflanked remains to be seen.

First British Energy. Electricite de France agreed to remain in the auction for London on condition that its owners, Entergy of the US, paid it a "break fee" if the business was sold to the only other bidder left in the race, British Energy. This break fee was equivalent to 2-4 per cent of the eventual bid price, meaning that in order to match the French offer, British Energy would have had no option but to overpay.

Knowing that Entergy was desperate to have the money its hands as soon as possible, EdF twisted the knife a bit further by making its bid unconditional on regulatory clearance. This is where the Commission comes in. Under EC rules, a bidder can be fined heavily for making an offer unconditional before Brussels has had an opportunity to vet the deal. However, EdF secured a dispensation from the EC - the first such occasion this has occurred allowing it to bid unconditionally without fear of punishment.

This does not automatically mean the deal will be cleared by Brussels. But having given EdF a dispensa-tion, it would be odd if the EC de-

cided then to block the takeover. Will Mr Mandelson be so well disposed towards the French? Unlike previous foreign takeovers in the electricity sector, this bid raises concerns for two reasons. First, EdF itself cannot be taken over because it is state-owned. Second, this deal amounts to vertical integration because EdF already supplies 7 per cent of the UK market through the interconnector from France.

Mr Mandelson is not too impressed by the fact that the interconnector only runs one way. As for back-door renationalisation of London, that would never have been allowed under the Lilley doctrine. But remember this is new Labour and Mr Mandelson is its most ardent advocate of privatisation. Brussels may keep the right to vet the merger, but EdF has to rely on the British authorities to transfer London's licence. EdF could be un-

Barclays hawks urged dismissal , for Taylor

AT LEAST one Barclays direc- BY ANDREW GARFIELD tor called for chief executive Financial Editor Martin Taylor to be fired as chief executive on Thursday night after Mr Taylor informed the board that he intended to resign with immediate effect, it emerged yesterday.

Thursday night some board members argued that given his refusal to stay on to give Barclays time to find a suc- deputy chairman, criticising cessor a statement should be him for compounding the diffimediate affect. However, the management decisions that hawks on the board backed down after consultation with both Barclays lawyers and lawyers acting for Mr Taylor. Mr Taylor agreed two months

The angry boardroom scenes came after Sir Nigel Mobbs, the senior non-executive called in to headhunters to examine alterdeal with the crisis, asked Mr native candidates for his job. Taylor over hinch on Wednesday to stay on until a succession plan could be put in place.

The tension between Mr Tay-

f: 1

lor and his board goes back at least two years, but was brought to a head by a row at the October board meeting over the former chief executive's proposals At a tense meeting on to demerge the bank's corporate and retail operations.

Other board members have rounded on Sir Andrew Large. were not properly his responsibility.

With relations deteriorating, ago to the appointment of Spencer Stuart as outside

Sir Peter Middleton, who stepped into the breach, will be



put out saying that Mr Taylor culties on the board by seeking Sir Nigel Mobbs, non-executive director at Barclays, who asked Martin Taylor to stay on as chief executive until a succession plan could be put in place; Mr Taylor's refusal angered the board

due to meet in two weeks to put together the outlines of a strategy for rebuilding confidence in

Lendrum, the head of Barclays' UK corporate banking business

have been unsettled by the re- chief executive from Martin liance & Leicester and Martin Williamson who went on to run cent events. Barclays' board is Taylor who quit the bank in Gray, head of retail at NatWest. due to meet in two weeks to put dramatic fashion last Friday. However, industry insiders

have said that they would prefer to look outside the bank As the search for Mr Taylor's Among the more plausible replacement began, Chris names being put forward yesterday were Peter Burt, the spending most of the week has emerged as the internal the Bank of Scotland, Peter up through the same central and highly risky way to get talking to shareholders who front-runner to take over as White, chief executive of Alplanning route as Malcolm yourself a new chief executive."

Senior Barclays executives say the dearth of obvious candidates for the job may lead the board to settle for the option of an internal promotion after all. Mr Lendrum, who joined

the main board in June, is a cawell-regarded chief executive of reer Barclays man who came

Olso marine firm for £380m VICKERS, the defence and en- By MICHAEL HARRISON

Vickers buys

gineering group, yesterday announced the £380m takeover of a Norwegian marine engineering business, its first major deal since selling off the luxury car maker Rolls-Royce to

The acquisition of the Oslobased group Ulstein will turn Vickers into one of the world's leading manufacturers of marine propulsion systems and signifies a further shift in emphasis away from its traditional tank business.

Vickers is paying £304m in cash for all of Ulstein's businesses apart from its shipbuilding division. It is also assuming £42m in debt and will incur further transaction and restructuring costs of around £30m. There will also be a goodwill write-off of more

than £200m The purchase price represents a premium of more than 200 per cent to Ulstein's price before takeover talks were disclosed last week, prompting concern among analysts that Vickers has overpaid.

Vickers, which raised £470m from the Rolls sale, will also

have net debt following the takeover, although it said the deal would be earnings enhancing and, at worst, interest cover would be covered at least five times by earnings.

Baron Buysse, Vickers' chief executive, defended the price being paid for Ulstein by saying the combined business would be a world leader. The takeover could result in some rationalisation of capacity in Edinburgh. where Ulstein and Vickers' own marine propulsion business, Kamewa, both have facilities.

The combined business will have sales of £500m and more than 2,300 employees. Mr Buysse said he did not foresee any difficulties with European competition authorities over market dominance.

The move by Vickers to deepen its involvement in marine engineering prompted speculation that it may dispose of its Challenger 2 tank business, either by selling it to a US buyer like United Defense or merging it with the new GKN-Alvis joint venture in fighting vehicles.

Notice to customers of Halifax International (Isle of Man) Limited.

Halifax International (Isle of Man) Limited announces revised interest rates effective from 1st December 1998.

BALANCE	ANNUAL INTEREST GROSS P.A. (PREVIOUS)	ANNUAL INTEREST GROSS P.A. (FROM 01/12/98)	MONTHLY INTEREST GROSS P.A. (FROM 01/12/98)
ŀ	IALIFAX INTERNA	ATIONAL GOLD 9	0
£100,000+	7.70%	7.15%	6.93%
£50,000+	7.65%	7.10%	6.88%
£25,000+	7.40%	6.90%	6.69%
£10,000+	7.00%	6.50%	6.31%
	HALIFAX INTER	NATIONAL GOLD	
£100,000+	7.35%	6.80%	6.60%
£50,000+	7.15%	6.60%	6.41%
£25,000+	7.05%	6.55%	6.36%
£10,000+	6.60%	6.10%	5.94%
£5,000+	6.05%	5.55%	5.41%
£500+	4.45%	3. 95 %	3,88%

If you have less than £10,000 in your Halifax International Gold 90 account it will earn interest at the equivalent Halifax International Gold rate. If you have less than £500 in your Halifax International Gold 90 or Halifax International Gold account we will only pay interest at 1.00% gross p.a. "Gross" means we will not take any tax off the interest we pay. The accounts shown above are not available to residents of the Isle of Man.

Further details can be obtained by calling Halifax International (Isle of Man) Limited on 01624 612323 (from within the UK) or 44 1624 612323 (from outside the UK).



1st December 1998

IN BRIEF

Rexam bids £380m for Swedish packaging giant

REXAM, the UK's second-largest maker of food containers and beverage cans, has bid 7.77bn kronor (£380m) for Sweden's largest consumer packaging company, PLM. Rexam, whose chief executive Rolf Boerjesson led PLM until 1996. will assume debt of Kr2.64bn. PLM spokesman Per Erlandsson said the board would probably decide on the bid at its next meeting 8 December. PLM has 20 per cent of the European beverage can market.

Midshires deadline for votes

BIRMINGHAM MIDSHIRES has made a final call to members to send in their votes on the £750m Halifax takeover offer. Proxy voting forms on the deal must be returned by midnight next Tuesday. Midshires is offering preference shares worth £400 each to the majority of members. For the bid to be accepted, more than 50 per cent of all savers, and a majority of borrowers voting, must vote in favour.

Uno shares dive 15 per cent

SHARES in Uno, the furniture retailer, shed 15 per cent of their value yesterday as the company revealed same store sales in the 28 weeks to 7 November had fallen by 11.6 per cent year-on-year. Uno said the traditionally quiet first half would show a "significant loss". Analysts have cut fullyear profit forecasts from £4.75m to £2.75m. Separately, Fine Art Developments, the

share price, pence 250-200-150 -100-50 — DIFMAMIJASON

home shopping company, warned it expects a "material reduction" in profits this year due to lower margins, higher pension costs and millennium compliance costs.

NTT offer for Europe

EUROPEAN investors are to be allowed to buy up to 175,000 shares in NTT, the Japanese telecoms giant, when the Japanese government sells 1 million shares - a 6 per cent stake - in the group later this month. Roughly twothirds of the shares are reserved for Japanese investors. while the remainder will be offered in the US. .

Lord Wolfson

THE photograph which accompanied yesterday s article on Great Universal Stores was incorrect. The picture showed Lord Wolfson of Marylebone. The chairman of GUS is Lord Wolfson of Sunningdale. We apologise for the error.

HSBC (X) Midland Bank

Notice to cardholders

Midland Bank announces the following decrease in its interest rates. **Effective from (and including)** 1 January 1999.

> Standard Monthly Interest

Midland MasterCard/Visa, **Combined & Student Accounts**

Up to and including 31/12/98

1.61%

1/1/99 onwards

Standard Chartered, the UK

management buy-in by Alliance

& Leicester or even Bank of

Scotland might be the solution.

But the idea was dismissed as

"laughable" by Barclays insiders. One said: "It is a ridiculous

Analysts have suggested a

quoted Asian bank

1.54%

 Terms & Conditions will be varied accordingly with effect from the date above

HSBC is the marketing name of Midland Bank plc.

HALIFAX INTERNATIONAL (ISLE OF MAN) LIMITED IS REGISTERED WITH THE ISLE OF MAN FRANCIAL SUPERVISION COMMISSION FOR BANGING AND INVESTMENT BUSINESS. BRANCH AND REGISTERED OFFICE, PO 90X 30, 67 STRAND STREET, DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN IM99 1TA, REGISTERED IN THE ISLE OF MAN: NO. 062691C,

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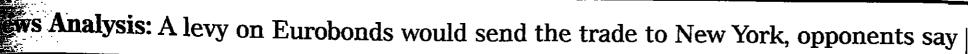
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The City of London dominates the \$2 trillion Eurobond market. A withholding tax would simply mean institutions channelling business elsewhere, lobbyists claim

City takes a stand on Euro-tax

THE CITY'S flourishing Eurobond market seems an unlikely source of political controversy, but today its future will be top of the agenda when European finance ministers neet in Brussels.

Europonds were of limited interest to those outside the Square Mile until the European Commission stepped in with controversial plans to impose a new tax on bonds issued in the

In the City it is now feared that the Commission's plans to impose a withholding tax on investment income could destroy this \$2 trillion market, which the City of London dominates.

The Corporation of London, which is lobbying aggressively against the imposition of the new tax, watns that the Eurobond trade could be forced from London to New York, putting up to 10,000 City jobs at risk.

Under the Commission's proposals, all EU member states would have to choose between two options when looking at the interest that non-residents earn on investment income.

The first is to provide the non-residents' home tax authority with detailed information on revenue flows, thus enabling the home tax authority to levy the appropriate tax.

The second is to levy a 20 per cent minimum withholding tax on interest paid to non-residents which is the route most institutions would be likely to take.

The Commission says these proposals would eliminate 'unfair" tax competition between member states, thus ensuring that money did not flow to, say, Luxembourg from Germany simply because of the differing tax regimes.

Many European countries, the UK included, already have some type of withholding tax in place. Most banks pay interest on income net of tax, for example. Indeed, the idea of taxing income as close to its been advocated by academics pensive for companies to issue

- it helps crack down on tax debt in Europe, forcing them to avoidance. So if the Commission's proposals simply extend this regime to all European countries, what is all the fuss

The main difficulty is that the Commission's proposals, as they stand at present, will affect wholesale financial markets that are currently exempt from the withholding tax. Individuals from outside the

UK, for example, who currently receive income from Eurobonds issued in London, will suddenly see sharp falls in the interest. As a result, they will demand higher returns from Eurobonds if they are going to hold them in preference to other financial instruments. source as possible has long This in turn, makes it more ex-

THE GROWTH IN EUROBONDS Eurodollar bond issues, Sbn

look elsewhere.

As Judith Mayhew of the Corporation of London puts it: "The main difficulty is that until the US adopts such a tax then it is easy for global financial institutions to move part of the Eurobond market to New York."

Bill Robinson, a former director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies and now a director of London Economics, the consultancy, says: "The world these days is a global village. Tax revenue equals tax rate times tax base. There's no point raising the tax rate if the tax base is simply going to shrink." Professor Richard Dale of

the University of Southampton. author of a recent study of the effect of regulation in the financial markets commissioned by the Corporation of London, agrees. He says: "It is well established that financial regulatory initiatives implemented in one national jurisdiction may cause financial activity to shift to other, more permissive, ju-

However, proponents of the Commission's proposals point out that they will only apply to individuals, not companies. Individuals only hold around 10 per fected. And although there have market, now key to the financial

been attempts by some MEPS to extend the scope of the tax to companies, this is seen as highly unlikely by senior sources.

Those who oppose the Commission's moves counter that financial markets only work if they are deep and they are

Ms Mayhew, for example, argues that the main attraction of London is the depth of its financial markets ~ the consequences of tampering with this competitive advantage could be disastrous. Historical experience seems

to support the view that in financial markets, size matters. The recent experience of Liffe – which lost the whole of the market for German government bond futures to Frankfurt within months because of its reluctance to introduce electronic trading - still smarts with many in the City.

Professor Dale's study also provides real-life evidence to hack up those who oppose the imposition of the tax in the wholesale financial markets. Until 1984, for example, the US imposed a 30 per cent withholding tax on income paid by US issuers to non-resident investors. The result, according cent of all Eurobonds - so the to the study, was to help kickbulk of the market will be unaf- start the Eurodollar bond

health of the City and other European financial centres.

In late 1987, the German government proposed a new 10 per cent withholding tax on domestic bonds, to come into effect in 1989. The results were nothing short of spectacular. In 1988, just before the tax was due to come in, DM9bn flowed out of German bonds, and the mark came under severe pressure. In April 1989, four months after the tax had come into force, the government was forced into an embarrassing U-turn.

There seems to be a broad consensus among academics and the City alike that the extension of a withholding tax to Europe's wholesale financial markets will cause institutions to channel business elsewhere, and that jobs - not just in London but across Europe - will go.

The high-profile lobbying conducted by the City seems to be having some impact. The Government has said it will not jeopardise the City's future prospects. The UK's opposition to the plans is gathering support in Europe. There are moves afoot by MEPs to propose that the Eurobond market be exempt from the tax. If they fail, the argument goes, then it is not only London's financial markets, but Europe as a whole

Allders warns of slow start to Christmas

ALLDERS, the department By NIGEL COPE store retailer, yesterday warned of a slow start to Christmas and said it was already making cutbacks in the face of

weak consumer demand. Reporting a 16 per cent fall in profits to £19.4m, in line with profits warning in August, Allders said it had made 60 staff redundant in the last two months and delayed the hiring of Christmas staff by a month to reduce costs. The company is also considering cutting its marketing budget for next year.

Reporting a 3.7 per cent fall in same-store sales in the last eight weeks, Allders said only a handful of departments had recorded sales gains. Beds were the best performer with a rise in sales of just 2 per cent. Lingerie, linen and menswear showed marginal gains.

Other departments have been hammered, with personal computer sales down by 50 per cent because of fierce competition. Allders has reduced the amount of floor space devoted to PCs and is likely to pull out of the sector completely this year "Dixons has been doing well and there are new entrants like Tesco and Asda," Associate City Editor

said Allders' chief executive, Harvey Lipsith. "The competition is phenomenal and longterm we don't see a future for us in that market."

Mr Lipsith said he thought Christmas would be "late", with shoppers leaving their purchases until the last minute but he was optimistic about the January sales. "I thing 1999 is going to be a tough year but I don't think it's going to get any worse."

Allders has 38 stores spread across the country, including 18 branches of Allders at Home, which specialises in household goods. Mr Lipsith said the southern stores had performed no better than those in the north. which has been hit by a weakening manufacturing sector.

Allders said the year began well but sales drifted downwards after June as interest rates edged higher. Trading was also disrupted by a refurbishment programme and the relaunch of the seven former Maples stores acquired in September last year for £3.8m.

The shares closed 3p lower

Atkins is worried about P&O stake

WS ATKINS, the consultant engineer in talks to buy the construction group Bovis from P&O, warned yesterday that having the transport group as a major shareholder could be a disadvantage, writes Francesco

Under the proposed terms of the Bovis sale, P&O would receive up to £350m in cash and a stake of up to 15 per cent in WS Atkins, becoming the single largest shareholder in the highly rated engineer

However the WS Atkins chief executive Mike Jeffries said that leaving such a large holding in the hands of P&O could increase volatility in the share price.

"The disadvantage is that this is quite a big block of shares in the hand of one shareholder with other interests. So if there was a downturn P&O might want to offload it," he said. He added that a sale of the stake would push down WS Atkins' share price, which has almost trebled in value since the 1996 flotation.

However, Mr Jeffries acknowledged that the presence of P&O would bolster confidence in the future of Bovis, a respected construction business with sales of over £2bn a year.

WS Atkins yesterday reported an 18 per cent rise in interim pretax profit to £15m on turnover up 15 per cent to £200.9m.

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stores nationwide

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FSA to regulate Lloyd's

FINANCIAL regulators yesterday set out proposals for the Lloyd's of London insurance market to be regulated externally for the first time in its 300-year history.

writes Andrew Verity. The Financial Services Aunew powers under the Financial Services and Markets Bill to avoid a repeat of huge losses in the early 1990s which nearly caused Lloyd's to collapse.

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All managing agents - the companies that run the syndicates underwriting business authorised as "fit and proper" by the FSA.

Members' agents, who liaise thority published plans to use between the market and individual Names, will also have to be authorised, and the FSA will have powers to intervene

subject to consultation until March 31, seek to avert a crisis at Lloyd's - will now have to be arising from big concentrations

1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997

of risk and poor underwriting. The FSA retreated from handling the day-to-day monitoring of the market - a possibility that alarmed insiders. Instead, Lloyd's will discipline wayward members while the

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COMPANY	RESULTS				
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for £20bn drugs

merger

By ANDREW GARFIELD Financial Editor

THE CHEMICALS giants Rhone-Poulenc and Hoechst will today formally announce plans to create a £20bn Franco-German pharmaceutical and agrichemicals group based in the historic town of Strasbourg, which has been fought over by the French and Germans for centuries.

The combined company, which is to be called Avantis, will be the largest life sciences group in the world by sales, overtaking Merck, the American drugs giant, and Glaxo-Wellcome of the UK.

The group will also be the largest agrichemicals group, ahead of Norvatis, the Swiss giant.

In structuring the deal, the Germans appear to have bent over backwards not to offend the French. Not only will the company be headquartered in France, but the French have won the battle to ensure that it is Jean-Réné Fourtou, the Rhone-Poulenc chairman and chief executive, who will head the all-powerful management board. Jurgen Dormann, the Hoechst chief executive whom the Germans had wanted to run the combined operation, will run the supervisory board.

Moreover, the new company is to be split 50:50 between Hoechst and Rhone-Poulenc, despite the fact that on current market valuations the split would work out closer to 60:40 in the Germans' favour.

Unions have already expressed concern at the level of job cuts likely to flow from the deal. The talk is that 10 per cent, or 15,000 jobs, could go.

The two companies intend to keep their separate share listings until 2001 to allow them to divest operations that do not form part of the merger plan. Hoechst announced last month it was planning to spin off industrial chemicals.



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Kingfisher buoyant as Footsie sinks

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market's monarch yesterday. The retail giant, which counts B&Q. Woolworths and Superdrug among its subjects, fought valiantly against Footsie's three-digit slide and was one of the few stocks still standing at the end of the day.

A note from the broker Charterhouse Tilney, which identified Kingfisher as the pick of an undervalued retail sector, sent the stock on its way. With analysts Mark Charnock and Ian McDonald musing about a "massive upside in B&Q" and saying there was "still upside in Woolworths", the stock could only go up.

The positive mood intensified after talk that chief executive Sir Geoff Mulcahy had told analysts that the venture with the French giant Castorama was on the acquisition trail. Receding fears of a bearish trading statement next week added to the bullish sentiment and an all-time record was in sight.

In the event, Kingfisher closed up 29.5p at 578p, the biggest Footsie riser of the day, but just short of its

Other retailers to benefit from cushioned against the international

MARKET REPORT

FRANCESCO **GUERRERA**

Charterhouse's wisdom included Footsie candidate Dixons, up 13p to 737p as the broker highlighted the chance of a share buyback. WH Smith, up 4p to 481p, was also favoured by the broker.

Footsie did not share the retailers' joy. The blue-chip index traded sideways for most of the day before being hit by the chill wind coming from Wall Street. Profit-taking in the US sparked a late sell-off which left Footsie 100.3 worse off at 5743.9.

The smaller indices were more

bearishness. The Mid Cap finished 24.3 lower at 4901.7, while the Small Cap fell 5.9 to 2065.0. The new All-Small index, which brings together the Small Cap and the Fledgling indices, ended its first day down 0.3

BT was hit by a rogue trade. The telecom group was down 47.5p to 8309.5p - Footsie's worst performer - after a few shares changed hands at 830.50 one minute before the close. Until then the shares had been coasting along at around 837p.

Roval Bank of Scotland, down 5 per cent to 913p, was BT's rival for the wooden spoon, as the market fretted over the size of the bad debts to be unveiled with Thursday's results.

United News and Media shed 26.5p to 585.5p after losing another senior executive. Roger Laughton, the head of its broadcasting unit is to retire at Easter next year. Different picture at Carlton. The

ITV company, results today, tuned in with a 4.5 per cent rise to 487p amid talk that it is to buy PolyGram's film library and an ABN Amro buy note. Bid talk did the business for FKI

too. The engineer was hoisted over

8 per cent to 146.5p on whispers that a US predator has eyed its software business. Broker Panmure also gave the stock a friendly push.

AEA Technology, up 22.5p to 800p was not far off. The business

CONNAUGHT, a West-Countrybased facilities management group, began its stock market adventure with a 15.5p gain to 140.5p. The company, traded on AIM, specialises in the maintenance of council houses and schools. Yesterday it raised over £3m through a placing of 2.5 million shares. The money will be used to fund bolt-on acquisitions in the fast-growing cleaning and maintenance sector and to expand across the country.

services group was helped by better-than-expected results and good prospects for its nuclear clean-up operations.

Emerson, the US giant stalking the electronic minnow Astec with a £265m bid, took a giant step towards

SHARE SPOTLIGHT share price, pence FKI

victory. The Americans bought 27 per cent of Astec in the market at the 85p bid price. They now own over 78 per cent of their prey. A batch of shareholders including Royal & SunAlliance and Capital, were said to be among the sellers. Astec finished up 0.5p at 84.5p on massive vol-

100 NDJ FMAMJJASON

ume of 85.2 million shares. Creos International, a small producer of generators for medical

imaging companies, plunged 44 sales in its core businesses. Eleper cent to 4.75p - the worst fall in mentis's poor chemistry dragged the whole market - after announcing the disposal of its US operations to avoid running out of cash.

These days profit warnings come

RUMOURS of bid activity at United Carriers, up 2p to 16p. The parcels group is said to have received an approach of £5m-£10m from GE Capital, the financial services arm of General Electric of the US. However, United's board is thought to be hostile to the bid. The company was at the centre of takeover speculation in February when it announced merger talks with a mystery partner. The negotiations were

in family packs. Yesterday it was "buy one, get five free" day. Elementis, the former Harrisons & Crosfield, was the more eye-catching. The chemicals group shed 22 per cent to close at a five-year low of 75p after warning of a slump in

called off in April.

down fellow chemical groups. Albright & Wilson, down 4.2 per cent to 80p, Yule Catto, 13p lower at 264.5p, and Croda International. down 9.5p to 245.5p, were all tarred with the same brush.

Rugby was also in a scrum. The building materials group cautioned about its joinery business and fell over 7 per cent to 81.5p. The other profit warnings came from the minnows.

Critchley Group, an electrocomponents maker shed 115p to 455p after blaming market conditions for an interim plunge. Recycling Services, a waste business. threw away 19 per cent to 20.5 after a profit slide. UNO, the furniture maker, was sitting uncomfortably after a bearish trading update sent the shares down 15 per cent to 46p.

Nord Anglia, a provider of educational services, made it six with a warning that its language division has been hit by sterling's strength. It lost 29.5p to 164.5p.

SEAQ VOLUME: 936.7 million SEAQ TRADES: 68,398 GILT INDEX: n/a

Investment: Chemicals specialist runs into trouble after selling off other businesses

Elementis plunges on profit warning

ELEMENTIS, the company formerly By PETER THAL LARSEN known as Harrisons & Crosfield, yesterday shocked the stock market with a profit warning just as it completed its transformation into a pure speciality chemical group.

Shares in Elementis, which changed its name earlier this year after selling off its timber and petfoods business, lost 27 per cent of result of the Asian crisis and destocking in the aerospace industry.

The warning came as Elementis sold BOCM Pauls, its pig production and animal feed division, to a man-Electra Fleming, the venture capital group, for £60m. The sale, which triggers an £11m exceptional loss, on from a sorav glomerate into a company concentrating on speciality chemicals.

support of the City. In retrospect, Chantry chemicals analyst at Credit however, Elementis could hardly Lyonnais Laing. He now forecasts the likelihood of a bid, pointing out

the switch. As yesterday's warning made clear, demand for both its main product lines has taken a hit in the second half of the year.

Sales of chromic oxide, which is used in the production of superalloys for the aerospace industry, have been hit by destocking. Meantheir value as the company warned while slower demand for paints in that demand for its chemical prod- the US has hit the group's pigucts had suffered a slowdown as a ments division. The shares dropped 21p to 75p.

Lyndon Cole, the new Elementis chief executive who was brought in from General Electric of the US earlier this year, said the poor perforagement buyout team backed by mance had nothing to do with the company's restructuring. "H's purely down to economic factors feeding through," he said, adding completes Elementis's year-long that he expected some improvement in trading in the first quarter of 1999.

The strategy has largely won the holt from the blue," said Jeremy tasty morsel," one observer said.

to December, with a small rise to

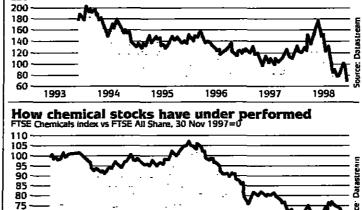
£55m next year. Michael Eastwood, analyst at Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, said: "Everything is going wrong. The environment is appalling."

Despite the disappointment, few observers felt the need to question Elementis's strategy of concentrating on chemicals. "Anything is better than pigs and animal feeds." said Williams de Broe analyst Peter Cartwright. "At least they've got one foot out of the mire."

The share price drop might even make Elementis a bid target. Britain's speciality chemicals sector has been seen as ripe for consolidation for some time, as large chemical companies seek to add new products to their portfolio by snapping up smaller niche players. In the past year a number of smaller comies such as Allied Colloids, Cour-

However, analysts played down said.

ELEMENTIS: AT A GLANCE 1997 1997 1998 Five-year record 1994 1996 Turnover (£bn) 2.05 2.05---1.92 121.00 -113.00 8.50 11.20 -16.40 9.00 3.60 Share price 220-



N D J F M A M J J A S O N

ments divisions would each appeal from investing in its busing "This profit warning has come as a over. "Elementis is now quite a reduced share price one expects

Mr Cole said the temporary

But analysts were dismayed. taulds and Inspec have been taken to very different buyers. "Even at the "The company's divisions have number one or number two positions said. "At this point in time the focus has to be developing these

dullness for some time," Mr Chantry in their respective markets," he

have chosen a worse time to make pre-tax profits of £50m for the year that Elementis's chrome and pig-shortfall would not deter Elementis Imperial confident on smokers' litigation

Imperial Tobacco, remains confident

Imperial, which owns John Player,

Embassy and market-leading Lam-

bert and Butler brands, is involved

in 16 product liability lawsuits in the

UK, with one case brought by 49

Appeal Court next week.

damage payments."

US health authorities.



in the event of a recession

GARETH DAVIES, chief executive of BY SIMON DUKE

about the outcome of the latest bout Davies was extremely pleased at the results and the "successful inteof litigation against the company, but admits that continuing speculation gration of the Rizla business into the over such cases makes life uncom-

He expects UK cigarette sales to continue to fall by up to 7 per cent annually, due to declining cigarette consumption, bootleg sales and the Government's "penal taxation Mr Davies wants to continue the

smokers due to be heard in the expansion into the more stable European market, which has seen On the subject of the forthcoming lawsuit, Mr Davies said he was very Imperial acquire Rizla and the confident of Imperial's position. "We Dutch Douwe Egbert tobacco business this year, but he refused to have made no provision for possible be drawn on possible takeover Imperial has no exposure to the

US market, and was not involved in The results were broadly in line with City forecasts, with the share the recent \$206bn settlement price rising by 1 per cent to 634p. The between cigarette companies and City regards tobacco companies as Announcing a 6 per cent rise in defensive stocks, meaning that, in the event of a recession, their earnfull year pre-tax profits to £325m, Mr

ings are only marginally affected. In an economic downturn smokers are more likely to change their brand than give up altogether.

For this reason, both Imperial and the rival cigarette producer Gallaher have enjoyed considerable share price rises in recent months, with Imperial surging 52 per cent since the end of June.

One City pundit said Imperial's figures looked good. "At current levels their price/earnings ratio is 25 per cent below the market as a

The litigation threat is seen as minimal, and analysts would be surprised if there were any damage to the company as a result of the

One commentator said "both Imperial and Gallaher have had great runs since July. Although the company is in good shape, it is unlikely that the share price has much further to go."

Deutsche shows who'll be the boss

THE JOINT press conference given by Rolf Breuer, Deutsche Bank's chairman, and his counterpart Frank Newman of Bankers Trust to outline their \$9bn link-up yesterday illustrated perfectly their relationship. Mr Breuer hogged the podium for a good 25 minutes, leaving Mr Newman just five minutes at the end. Fair enough. As Mr Breuer

pointed out: "This is an acquisition." Its good to see that the integration of the German and American banks is going to be pushed ahead with typical Teutonic efficiency. As Deutsche's press release put it, they are "planning to complete the deal by May 1998" - some nine months before it was signed.

JANET SIDAWAY has thoroughly enjoyed being one of the City's top- match as the "Investec Internated engineering analysts for the last 15 years, but now she is quitting her current employers, Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, in favour of King's College, London, to do a twoyear postgraduate diploma in theology and religious studies.

"I don't really like publicity," Ms Sidaway, says, adding that her colleagues' response to her newfound career has involved "a lot of

So why the switch? "It's something I've always wanted to do, and now seemed the right time," she says. She is already used to big changes, having followed a first class degree in English from York ed in South Africa on 3 July 1967 University with seven years as an engineer with TI Group, back in the dard for gold, and is currently

In a Who's Who of Analysts dated 1992 she listed her interests as Wagner, Romanesque art, gardening." Clearly the engineering sector will be a duller place without her.

SMALL BUSINESSES running into financial difficulties can now ring a state-of-the-art helpline from Pannell Kerr Forster, the accountants, called

"A Friend in Need". Hang on a minute. The "Friend" line is being run by PKF's insolvency practitioners. Who wants to ring up

an undertaker if you're in trouble? John Alexander, senior insolvency partner at PKF, and currently receiver of the Fashion Cafe in LonPEOPLE AND BUSINESS By John WILLCOCK

DAVID POTTER, chief executive of Guinness Mahon, is looking forward to Saturday. His colleagues from Investee, the South African financial services group which bought Guinness Mahon earlier this year, are flying in en masse to watch the rugby Test match at Twickenham between England and South Africa. The bank has even rebranded the

Mr Potter is betting on 23-17 to England, although he admits that his visitors led by Bernard Kantor, Investec Group's managing director, "will no doubt give you a different score."

It will be an historic occasion whatever happens, since the world champion Springboks are seeking to break the All Blacks' world record of 17 consecutive Test victories.

The lucky chap who wins the Man of the Match award will receive a Krugerrand supplied by Investec - a gold coin first mintwhich has since become a stanworth around £179.

don, says there shouldn't be a "per ception problem" with the line. "People know we're not the ogres we're portrayed as - we're not ghouls out to get what we can."

In fact the helpline is mostly rung by businesses which are having trouble collecting debts from other firms - and want to know the best way to get their money back. Something Mr Alexander and his chaps are experts at.

"Insolvency is a nasty word perhaps, but people want to know what the procedures are," he

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	Contract		Settlement	High	Low	AOJNUS Est udos	interest
	Long Gilt	Dec-98	117.09	117.13	116.50	12885.00	30137.00
	5 Yr Gilt	Mar-98	108.73				76.00
	German Burvi	Dec-98	114.42	114.29	114.25	175.00	2263.00
	ItaSan Bond	Dec-98	112.46	112.53	112.19	21672.00	54075.00
	Japan Govt Bd	Dec-9B	136.70	136.98	136.46	3588.00	0.00
	3 Mth Sterling	Dec-99	93.29	93.29	93.26	9316.00	189471.00
	·	Jun-99	94.23	94.25	94.20	8007.00	149423.00
	3 Mith Euromark	Dec-98	96.42	96.45	96.40	51720,00	498046.00
П		Jan-98	96.63	95.63	96.62	800,00	10705.00
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		Mar-99	96.73	96.74	96.71	4628,00	253845.00
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		Mar-99	98.37	98.38	98.33	7526.00	56758.00
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Feb Pork Bellies	(CME) S/40k lb	45.80	May Rubbe) Y/ 5k kg	90.60
Jan Orange Juice	(CTM) S/15k lb	119.20	Mar Cotton) S/50k lb	64.30
Dec Mark	(CSC) \$/50k lb		Dec Crude			307.00
Dec Oats	(CBT) \$/5k bsh	107.50	Jan Soya C) S/60k lb	25.65
Jan Flax	(WCE) 5/20 m	341.00	MBY WOOLE	nYam (TOV) x/500kg 1	165.00

Where football is a fight for survival

BY NICK HARRIS

FOOTBALL CLUB for sale. Period building in own grounds on site of local historic interest. Large lawn. Outside toilet. Needs new roof (and a few million pounds to clear debts). Several previous owners. Open to offers.

Welcome to the Football League of the late 1990s. While the Premier League is booming – in August, the accountants Deloitte & Touche declared it the richest in the world the rest of England's professional game is struggling to cope.

It is not just lower division clubs -Chester in administration, Hull's new consortium yet to prove it can pull the club back from the brink - fighting for survival. First Division Portsmouth vesterday announced they have been forced to ask the Professional Footballers' Association for a £150,000 loan to pay wages. Oxford United, with debts estimated at £13m, are in trouble and trying to sell players to balance the books. Numerous club owners, according to an Independent survey of the Nationwide's 72 sides, are looking for buyers.

Kenneth Booth, the chairman of Rotherham, fourth in the Third Division, gave a succinct summary of life in the basement. "It's a hard job just to survive: the gate money's not big enough, the wages are too big and there's no money trickling down.

"They [clubs in the lowest two divisions] are all skint, living hand to mouth," he added, and said Rotherham are in existence only "because I'm a silly bugger". Losses of "hundreds of thousands of pounds per year" are met from his own pocket. "Everyone is in the same boat." he said. Selling the club would be an attractive proposition, if only he could find a buyer. "I'd do it today."

Booth's views are replicated by many Third Division clubs. "It's very, very difficult," Don Rowing, Scunthorpe's chief executive, said. "People are working very hard to increase commercial revenue, but you do wonder what the future holds." Scunthorpe made a small profit to May, Rowing said, but that was due to £100,000 transfer income and £100,000 television money for a Littlewoods Cup tie with Everton. Rowing said most clubs at his level are bearing losses of £180,000 to £300,000 per season. "I don't see parttime football as an option, but some may be forced down that route."

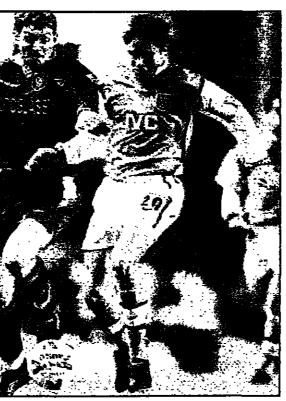
One club forced down that route is Halifax. Relegated to the Football Conference in 1993 (where they remained until promotion this summer). Halifax went part-time to survive. Jim Brown, the chairman, said the years of non-League football helped the club to become more financially prudent.

"It gave us a new lease of life." he said. "We cut the cloth to suit and wound [our costs] down and down." Since returning to the League, the club has gone full-time again, but is operating on a tighter budget, that, for the first time, has no income from transfer fees factored into it. "We run a very tight ship," Brown said. Halifax made a small loss last year but will post a profit this season thanks to the £350,000 sale of Geoff Horsfield to Fulham. Brown is optimistic about the future, and puts the club's financial success down to the fact that he has kept wages in check.

THE FAMILY SILVER: HOW SELLING IS BECOMING A MATTER OF SURVIVAL



Gareth Barry: The income Third Division Brighton will receive from the sale of the 17-year-old defender to Aston Villa will transform the Seagulls' finances. Depending upon appearances, the fee could rise above £1m - nearly a season's wage bill at Brighton.



Matthew Upson: When Luton sold the 19-year-old defender to Arsenal last year, the £2m fee covered the average budgeted loss of £1.6m. The Hatters still need a few more Upsons to pay for the stadium on which the chairman says the future depends.



John Aloisi: Portsmouth announced yesterday that their finances are so bad, money is being borrowed from the PFA to pay wages. Australian striker Aloisi, once rated at £2m, could be sold off for as little as £500,000 in an attempt to balance the books.



Joev Beauchamp: Oxford's 27-year-old midfielder is on the market for around £800,000, but even his sale would go little way to clearing debts estimated at £13m. United's plight is typical - sell players and be damned by lack of talent or don't sell and go under.



Geoff Horsfield: The 25-year-old striker was a Conference player with Halifax in the Spring, but his talents persuaded Fulham to pay £350,000 to lure him from The Shay. The income will help Halifax show a profit in their first season back in the League.



Steve Bywater: The 17-year-old goalkeeper's sale by Rochdale to West Ham could keep the Lancastrians in profit for years. Depending on appearances, the deal could be worth £300,000 to £2m. Rochdale's losses are usually hundreds of thousands a year.

posal that might see wage capping a voluntary basis from next summer ment with an arrangement for fines In the 1996-97 season. Third Division clubs had a total combined turnover of £25.2m. more than £17.7m of which (70 per cent, or £700,000 on average) was spent on players' wages. In several cases, wages alone exceeded Barry Hearn, head of the Third turnover, Hearn's proposals would Division chairmen's committee and see squads' total salary bills capped themselves to bankruptcy but has vival probably depends on someone

chairman at Leyton Orient, sees pay to around 60 per cent of turnover, posas a key issue and is preparing a pro-sibly with a fixed absolute ceiling. "It [wage capping] would have to introduced into the Third Division on be some form of voluntary agreeas with rugby league," said Hearn. Rugby league clubs agree not to projected income on transfers or they forfeit income from Sky TV

done little to bridge the gap between the richest and poorest sides. Hearn's proposals may work better if there is an absolute capping level, but also run the risk of being unacceptable to those clubs that survive through benefactors with aspirations spend more than 51 per cent of their as high as their pockets are deep.

In many cases in football benefactors are conspicuous only by their deals. The effect has been to restrain absence. For Southend and Plysusceptible clubs from spending mouth, among others, long-term sur-

investing heavily and building new Division's chairmen's committee, stadiums. The same goes for Preston, Luton, Blackgool, Bristol Rovers and Colchester in the Second Division.

At Swansea, which has been owned by Silvershield plc since August 1997, the future is equally dependent on moving. "Should that (relocation) not happen, Swansea will join the other clubs on the market," Steve Hamer, the club's chairman, said. In the near future, Harner, who is also a member of the Third

added: "I think that there may be one or two club whose supporters will no longer have clubs to support."

The Third Division does not have a monopoly on haemorrhaging money. In the Second Division. Wigan's losses are £1m a year and Wycombe's £1.5m. At Lincoln, manager-chairman Keith Reames said: "Our only ambition is to remain solvent. The distribution of television money to the Premiership clubs is

having a knock-on effect and clubs like Lincoln simply can't compete." In the First Division, the pres-

sures are different but equally intense. "It's a catch 22," Ian Fleming, Grimsby's chief executive, said. "If you pay your players less, you lose matches and ultimately go down and lose market share. But we even have to compete for players with some of the bigger clubs in the Conference who are paying considerable

wages." Geoff Richmond, the chairman of Bradford - one of the League's most astutely run clubs - is of the same opinion, but at least admits some damage is self-inflicted. "Ninety per cent of most clubs' expenditure is related to players. As chairman we are all guilty of it. But I've never had a player or a player's agent holding a gun to my head."

While rising costs are forcing many owners to think of selling, and investors only seem to be attracted by clubs that offer commercial (often property-related) development opportunities, some of the most senior people in the game see a need for struggling clubs to simply cut costs and start being more professional in their business dealings.

"The Football League has to move away from the begging bowl culture into a help yourself culture," said David Sheepshanks, who is Ipswich's chairman, and had been, until last month, the chairman of the Football League for two years. "That said, it is very tough," he added, pointing out that unless football clubs act collectively for the good , of the game, there will be serious repercussions. The Premier League's court case with the Office of Fair Trading [which will decide whether individual clubs have the right to make their own television deals and hence effectively give a few clubs the majority of television money) starts in January.

Sheenshanks pointed out that Premier League attendances are around 11m people per season (or 29,000 people per game) and - with Premiership clubs receiving around £8m each from television - average profits in the top flight are £4.5m per club per year. In the First Division, where attendances are 8.5m (or just over 15,000 people per game), chibs receive under £800,000 each from television and make average annual losses of £1.5m. Half-size attendances are rewarded with one-tenth of television revenues and ultimately lead to losses. The lower down the League you go, the bigger the divide

Richard Scudamore, the chief executive of the Football League, 🧘 said the OFT case is "singularly the most important issue facing football right now. TV rights are the most significant source of revenue and if we're not allowed to negotiate collectively, equality of wealth dis-

come," he added, signalling that although times are hard, there is to be no room for the weak or sentimental. Football's minnows should survive 2. without having to make a mint.

LIFE IN THE NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: A CLUB-BY-CLUB GUIDE TO THE FINANCIAL HEALTH OF THE 72 MEMBERS

FIRST DIVISION Turnover Wages (96-97) (96-97) 3.7m 2.6m Thrifty when in Premiership, budgeted for relegation, Relatively stable.

Birmingham 7 6m 4.9m Bankrolled by David Sullivan, Managed well financially by Karren Brady.

7,7m 6.2m (3.3m) £17m in the red but have assets, including old ground Burnden Park.

1.9m 1.3m No comment from the club. Are finding First Division more expensive than Second Well run, capable of profits. Would like to share facilities with rugby league club to increase profitability.

Bristol City 2,3m 2.0m (0.4m) Lost £300,000 to May Surviving by benefactor chairman. Want new stadium, i

Crewe 1.4m | 1.1m Wage spiral having a big effect. Relegation would exacerbate problems.

Crystal Palace 7 9m 5m (0.5m) No comment from club. Chairman Mark. Goldberg overseeing revue of club's: finances. Tramp Group Limited, an oil company, announced "substantial sums" available for the club on Sunday.

Grimsby 2.2m 2.0m Making small profits but looking to relocate to achieve growth.

Huddersfield 3.7m 2.3m (0,2m) Lost £300,000 to May Will lose same. again this year. Currently negotiating a sellout to millionaire local businessman. lpswich 62m 43m Loss of £1 4m to May this year, but generally stable.

6 3m 3.8m (1.2m) Made £1.2m operating profit to May 1998 due to transfers. Stable. Oxford Utd 2.2m 2.3m (1.9m)

£13m in debt and most in danger in First Division of going under Portsmouth 4 4m 3.3m (2.1m) Losing a lot of money, chairman might self.

"Everything has a price." said spokesman. Port Vale 2.7m 1.9m 0.9m Construction of £4m stand underway as a means to increase income.

7.5m 6.7m (7.1m) No comment from club. Ground sharing (Wasps rugby) one measure for cost cuts **Sheff Utd** 5 lm 3.6m (3.1m) Lost £6m to May. New plc chairman, Carlo Colombotti, took över last week,

Stockport 2 9m 1.8m Commercial activity and community ventures have led to small profits.

Sunderland 13.4m 5.7m No comment. Healthier than most due to substantial support. Might survive better in Premier League next time if promoted. Swindon

4.7m 3.3m (0.3m) Reliant on youth players and selling. Low support may cause future problems. Tranmere 3.5m 3.3m (0.7m) Doubts about future persist due to argu-

ments over who owns the club Watford 3.0m 2.4m (0.9m) Bankrolled by tienefactors. Cutting costs

by sharing with Saracens RUFC. West Brons 6 lm 3.1m (0.2m) Listed company, attempting to cut costs to stem small losses.

11 4m 7 2m (6.2m) Owner Sir Jack Hayward wants stringent cuts to stem continuing losses. Typical of a club aiming for the Premiership

SECOND DIVISION (96-97)(96-97) Blackpool 2.4m 2.0m (0.8m) Losing £500,000+ per season. Want new

stadium (doubtful). May sell otherwise. Bournemouth 1.1m 1.0m (0.5m) Tight ship run by fans co-operative

Bankers insist club runs in the black. Bristol Rovers 1.4m 1.5m 3.000 Losing £400,000-500,000 per season

Want new stadium to secure future. 3 7m 1,7m (0.8m) No comment from club

Chesterfield 3.2m 1.0m Profits in 1996-97 due to sale of Kevin Davies to Southampton and FA Cup run **Colchester** 0.9m 0.8m **18,000**

£250,000 loss projected this year. Lowwages already. Relying on new stadium. 2.1m 1.5m (0.8m) Fulham Losing millions, but Al Fayed has deep pockets. Self funding in five years is the optimistic plan.

Gillingham 1.9m 1.9m 28,000 Keep wages low to manage costs. Looking at alternative income sources

Lincoln City 1.0m 1.1m (0.3m) "Our only ambition is to remain solvent." Losses of £2m per year. For sale 3.0m 2.8m (0.1m) Budgeted loss £1.6m Chairman wants new stadium. Will sell otherwise.

Macclesfield Figures not disclosed Would consider selling, despite saying four heads are above water. 12.7m 7.2m (3.9m) No comment from club fror sale to the right buyer. Losing money.

Miffwafl 4.lm 4 lm (2.9m) Chairman Theo Paphitis has cut losses, but his future involvement uncertain. May sell if offer came in.

Northampton 1.6m n/d (98,000) 'Who would want to buy this club?' said spokesman. Surviving in post-administration

Notts County 1.4m 1.6m (0.6m) 2.5m loss, despite commercial income. Offered for sale earlier this year. Oldham 3.1m 2.8m

£1,2m loss to May Considering investment offer from local brewery. Preston 3.8m 2.1m Relying on new 30,000-seat stadium

being developed for growth. 3 3m 3.0m (0.5m) Reading New stadium will help ease financial worries - if it can be filled.

5.0m 2.9m (0.3m) Stoke "We're in our worst case scenario." said spokesman on being relegated. Need immediate promotion to prosper.

2.4m 17m **22,000** Well run club, many extra-football activities (including boxing) help small profits 0.9m 1.7m (1.8m) Losing £1m+ per year Low attendances. Surviving by benefactor chairman

1.7m 1.4m Wrexham Making small profits through tight budgets, investing in a new stand to attract higher crowds Wycombe 3 2m i 8m (0.4m) Elusting from season to season, said a

I.1m 1.0m (0.1m) Benefactor chairman happy to meet yearly losses. Tim still a nutcase

spokesman, Losing £1.5m per year. Sell if

THIRD DIVISION

(96-97)(96-97) n/d n/d 0.4m Barnet Losing £5,000 per week, but make amends by seiling players. Tight budgets. Brentford 1.9m 1.0m

will inject £1.5m this year. Future hinges on new stadium, Brighton 1.1m 1.1m (1.4m) Back from near extinction. Small profit forecast (due to Gareth Barry sale).

Cambridge Utd 0 8m 0 8m (0.1m)

Lost £500,000 last season, Ron Noades

Would consider selling. Cardiff 1,2m n/a (0.2m) Future "is all up in the air." Takeover soon? 2.8m 1.6m **0.2m** "Each year is getting harder." Small profits

Budgeted losses of £300,000 per year.

from tight budgets/player sales. Chester 1.2m 1 lm (0.3m) Currently in administration. Future bleak. Darlington 0.8m n/d 0.3m Nearly wound up five years ago. New owner two years ago. New stand, Tight. budgets. Small profits.

1.1m 0.6m **29,000** Exeter Have been in administration in past. Losing £150,000 per year. Would sell "for the good of the club ' Halifax n/a n/a

Expected profit this year Tight budgetry controls after years in Conference Hartiepool 0.8m 0.5m (27,000) Came back from brink four years ago Taken over by oil company last year. Hope for small profits.

0.8m 1 im (0.6m) Recently on the brank, future dependent on money and will of new consortium.

Leyton Orient 15m 1.3m (0.7m) Lost £50,000 last season. Budgeted loss of £200,000 this season. Surviving by benefactor. Barry Hearn. 1.0m 0.7m (0.2m) Mansfield No comment from club. Have had

financial trouble in past Peterborough 3.5m 2.0m (0.1m) All losses paid by chairman, Pizza Express restauranteur and fan, Peter Boizot, Projected loss £340,000 Two offers for

club last season fell through. Future

dependent on new stadium.

Rochdale 0.8m 0.7m (**0.2m**) Forecast small profit this year due to transfers. Directors normally fund losses of around £300,000.

Rotherham 0.8m 1.1m (0.5m) Surviving thanks to chairman, "I'm looking for a buyer, it's hard to survive." Scarborough 0.8m n/d (0.2m) A mini-crisis at the moment," said chief executive. Future uncertain

Scunthorpe 1.1m 0.9m Profit of a few thousand to May 1998. Losses usual, paid by directors. Shrewsbury 0.9m 0.8m (7,000)

No comment from club. Getting by, Southend n/a n/a "Can't quantify" losses. Due to be taken over by property developer. Future depen-

dent on new stadium. 1.2m 1.0m (0.5m) Losses £400,000 per year. Taken over in 1997. If new stadium not possible, will be up for sale.

0.8m 0.6m (23,000) Solvent, but for sale for the past two to three years." Would sell to "the right buyer." Prognoses based on interviews with chairmen or club spokesmen unless stated

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tribution will never happen." That said, smaller clubs must still learn to run themselves better, he said. There are plenty of well-run clubs in the conference so I think we'll see a 72 club League for some time to

Additional reporting by Alaric Nightingale and Joe Morris

Marino passes magical 400 total

THE MIAMI quarterback, Dan Marino, has been overshadowed by the other passinglegend, Denver's John Elway. for much of the season, but on Sunday the veteran Dolphin reclaimed centre stage when he threw the 400th touchdown pass of his 16-year career.

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The pass, one of three scoring plays to the receiver O J McDuffie in the 30-10 win over the New Orleans Saints. means that Marino is the only player ever to throw 400 touchdowns. The achievement is all the more remarkable when you consider that Elway, the third most prolific touchdown passer ever, has yet to throw 300.

Marino has been around long enough to realise that owning virtually every record counts for little, and he would probably happily give them all up for the one thing he craves most, a Super Bowl ring. "It's a lot of touchdown passes," he said afterwards, "but winning is the most important thing".

That has always been the tenet of the irascible Saints coach, Mike Ditka, who guided proved highly controversial.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

By NICK HALLING

the Chicago Bears to the championship in 1986. Success has proved harder to come by in New Orleans, and while Ditka has worked hard to control his infamous temper, the loss in Miami prompted another spectacular tirade.

That is the most pathetic exhibition of football I have ever seen," he fumed. "Defense was horrible, offense was horrible, and special teams weren't any better. We were outcoached and outplayed."

High drama in New England. where the Patriots kept their season alive with a dramatic 25-21 victory over the Buffalo Bills. Their quarterback, Drew Biedsoe, played the game despite a double fracture of the index finger in his throwing hand, and his leadership proved the difference in a hardfought affair.

The game's final moments



Steve DeBerg, the Atlanta Falcons quarterback, prepares to pass as team-mate Bob Whitfield blocks Mike Jones of the St Louis Rams AP

Trailing by four points, Bledsoe fairytale with a one yard touchled his team on one last drive. With less than 10 seconds left. he completed a pass to Shawn Jefferson. The officials ruled it a good catch, although replays showed that Jefferson was out of bounds.

Then, as time expired, he threw a pass into the end zone which fell incomplete. The referee called a penalty against Buffalo, giving the Patriots one more play with no time left. yards on 31 attempts, including Bledsoe duly completed the a 27-yard touchdown in the

down to Ben Coates, prompting delight on one sideline, protests on the other.

Le Min 150

No such excitement in St Louis, where the Atlanta Falcons booked their play-off spot with a 21-10 triumph over the Rams. The Falcons missed their injured quarterback, Chris Chandler, but the running back Jamai Anderson was at his best again, rushing for 188

fourth quarter which sealed the win.

There were no problems for two other post-season aspirants, the New York Jets and the Jacksonville Jaguars. The Jets disposed of the Carolina Panthers 48-21, the running back Curtis Martin scoring twice and gaining 110 yards in total. The quarterback Vinny Testaverde continued to prosper, throwing a pair of touchdowns to the receiver Wayne

RONNIE O'SULLIVAN, who failed

to defend his UK Championship

back in the Irish Open starting

on 15 December O'Sullivan was

due to play Steve Davis or Alan

McManus in his first match of

the invitation tournament in

month's German Masters.

Jacksonville negotiated a potentially awkward trip to Cincinnati thanks to their quarterback, Mark Brunell, who threw four scoring passes in the

34-17 triumph. Elsewhere, the Green Bay Packers saw the return of the running back Dorsey Levens, who missed the last nine games through injury. The Packers duly disposed of the Philadelphia Eagles, 24-16. The Seattle Seahawks kept their flickering hopes alive when the kicker

Todd Peterson converted a 48-vard field goal to give the Seahawks a 20-18 verdict over

the Tennessee Oilers. The pre-season Super Bowl favourites Kansas City ended their wretched six-game losing streak by defeating the Arizona Cardinals. The quarterback Rich Gannon threw three touchdowns, but despite the 34-24 result, the Chiefs' season has effectively come to its end.

Results and tables. Digest, page 27

Fareham fall foul of Dodds and Co

HOCKEY

BY BILL COLWILL

FAREHAM, THE South Premier leaders, had their colours lowered for the first time this season when they lost their maximum points record at Beckenham in a thrilling game.

In a devastating opening spell, Beckenham went three goals up. A sensational fourthminute goal from Simon Hughes paved the way: collecting the ball outside the 25-yard area, he drove powerfully into the Fareham circle and let fly a

screamer into the roof of the net. Michael Dodds cashed in with a couple of goals and shellshocked Fareham were struggling. Picking themselves up, they took the game to Becken-ham but were let down by a woeful penalty-corner drill. It was not until their 15th penalty corner that Jim Moseley cored a consolation.

Despite not winning a single corner, Beckenham are now in second place having closed the gap to Fareham to three points with a game in hand. Winchester moved into third with a 2-0 win against Herne Bay, James Wakely scoring twice.

Cambridge University, held to a 3-3 draw by Crostyx, also lost their 100 per-cent record, in the Premier Holidays East Premier In the North, Sheffield Bankers took over the leadership on goal difference from Formby. Edgbaston, in spite of only drawing with Coventry & North Warwick, held their place at the top in the DTZ Midlands Premier.

Ayr have European destiny in their hands

hoping to avoid another bitter European experience as they take aim at history for a second

The fate of Jim Lynch's side is still in their own hands as they only need a point from tonight's final divisional game in Mannheim to be assured of ed a win in Litvinov to become a place in the second round.

By IAN PARKES

Czech side, Litvinov, beating the Russian champions Kazan on the road - an unlikely scenario.

Ayr faced a similar situation two weeks ago when they needthe first British team to pro-

But after holding a two-goal cushion early in the third period, they eventually lost on penalties to send the four-team group down to the wire.

Despite Ayr's indifferent form in the Sekonda Superleague, Lynch believes his side can take advantage of Mannheim's veteran defence and avenge their 6-3 defeat against

winning in Germany because although Mannheim are experienced, their defence is old and slow," he said. "Whatever happens we have had a very positive European debut."

The defenceman Jeff Hoad, meanwhile, knows Eagles cannot afford the mental slip-ups they showed against Litvinov. 'All we needed last time out

SNOOKER

Exhausted O'Sullivan eyes Dublin

title in Bournemouth because of On rankings the replacement physical and mental exhausspot should go to world No 11 Anthony Hamilton, but Matthew tion, has withdrawn from next Stevens might be in line after his The Essex player, 23 next fine performance in the UK Saturday hopes to make a come-Championship, when he fin-

ished runner-up to John Higgins. Higgins starts as the favourite for the Malta Grand Prix, an eight-man invitation event feaworld champion Ken Doherty, No 1 spot in the same year.

Jimmy White, the Masters champion Mark Williams plus three local players including

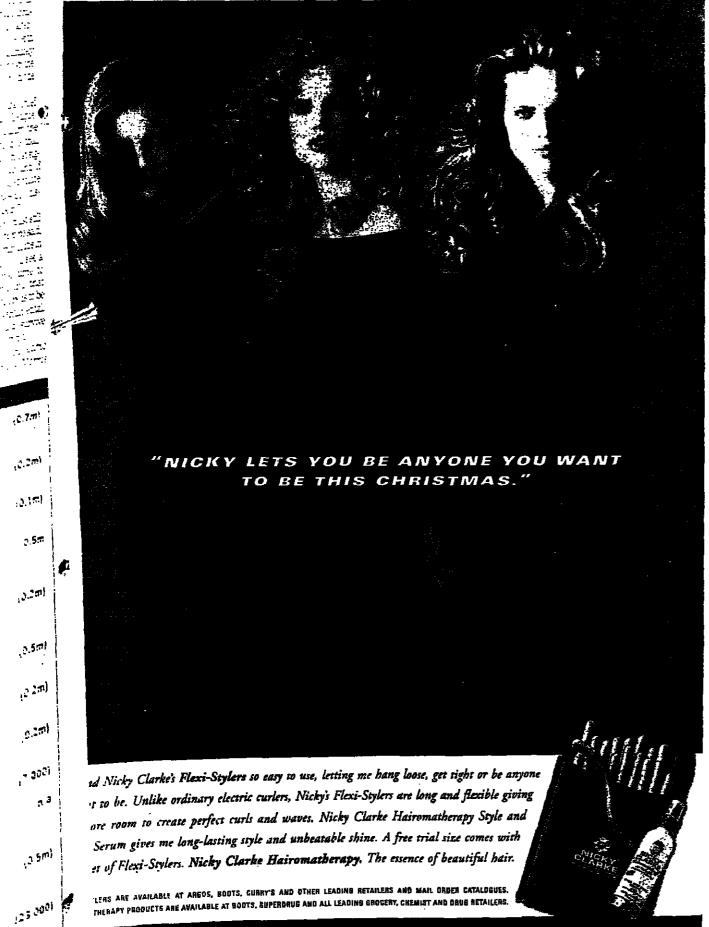
Tony Drago, later this week. In becoming the UK champion for the first time on Sunday, when he claimed the £75,000 first prize to take his earnings past the £1.5m mark with a 10-6 victory over Stevens, Higgins is only the third player after Steve Davis and Hendry to hold World turing Stephen Hendry, the 1997 and UK titles plus the world

TODAY'S **NUMBER**

53m

The amount in dollars (£33.1m) which baseball pitcher Randy Johnson will earn over the next four years after signing a deal with Arizona Diamondbacks.

Defeat in regulation time gress to the next phase of such for Eagles, would leave them armajor European ampetithe Germans earlier this year was a win, but we shot ourpinning their dreams on the tion. Czechs. But we are capable of need to stay focused," he said.



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WIN AN EVENING WITH SOME OF YOUR SPORTING HEROES AND A TRIP TO THE SYDNEY 2000 OLYMPIC GAMES.





The Independent and the Australian Tourist Commiss h ve teamed up to offer one lucky reader and a friend or partner the chance not only to dine with some of Britain's most famous sporting heroes at the Sports Writers Association Annual Dinner at the London Hilton on Monday 14th December, but also the opportunity to fly to Sydney and visit the 2000 Olympic Games.

The 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney are set to generate unprecedented levels of interest. More than anything, Australians are famous for their obsession with sport. The continent has established its reputation as a leading sporting nation and is host to some of the world's most prestigious sporting events. So there's never been a better time to head Down Under and discover what Australia has to offer. Sportsworld, the British Olympic Association's appointed tour operator, has provided the winner with six nights' accommodation in a twin room and two event tickets. Sportsworld has a comprehensive range of programmes from fully inclusive packages to flight and ticket options. Call Sportsworld for full package details.

Qantas Airways is providing two return tickets to Sydney. Qantas is Australia's international airline and has, for nearly 80 years, been at the forefront of providing new and better ways to take you safely and comfortably to your destination. Qantas flies twice daily to Australia and serves all seven international gareways.

The Independent have selected 6 sporting personalities from those previously honoured over the past 50 years - all you have to do is to vote for one of the athletes who in your opinion has contributed the most to their sport. Phone the number opposite the name listed below and tell us on the line the reason for your selection and leave your name, full address and a daytime telephone number. You could be the lucky winner who receives a pair of tickets to the Sports Writers Association Dinner and your trip to the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.

The Independent selections are as follows:

1) SIR BOBBY CHARLTON:

3) SEBASTIAN COE:

5) STEVE REDGRAVE:

6) VIRGINIA WADE

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Won gold in the long jump, silver in the pentathion and bronze in the relay in the 4) MARY RAND:

Tokyo Olympics of 1964. 090i 477 7334 Has won 4 Olympic rowing gold medals. Who would bet against number

five in Sydney, 0901 477 7335

Won Wimbledon in the Queen's Silver Jubilee year 1977 to take a place in

tennis folklore, 0901 477 7336

Terms and Conditions.

i) Calls cost 60p per minute and should last no longer than two minutes. 2) Winners will be picked at random after the lines close at midnight on Sunday 6 December 1998. 3) Tickets are not transferable there are no substitute prizes or cash alternatives. 4) Normal independent rules apply. 3) The Editor's decision is final, 6) All entrants must be aged 18 or over and have a valid passport and visa to travel. 7) Open to residents of the UK, Republic of Ireland and the Channel Islands, excluding employees of independent Newspapers, Quitas Alirvays or Sportsworth Group FLC, their families, their agencies or any other company directly connected with the administration of this competition conversation conversations are deemed to have accepted and agreed to be bound by the competition rules. Entry instructions form part of the rules.9) The prize consists of 2 economy class tickers London - Sydney - London. The prize winner and their partner must travel together for the whole journey, Insurance is not included but must be provided (ii) All bookings subject to availability. Once booked no changes to be made without the consent of Quantas and without payment of the relevant charge. II) Outbound flights must be taken during September 2000 inclusive. 12) Flights are subject to Quantas's Terms and Conditions of carriage and availability. 13) Exact travel date, accommodation and event tickets to be subject to final agreement between Sportsworld and prize winners.







For more information call 8345 747 767

McCoy has eyes on Bleu

THE M4 could be a road to avoid BY GREG WOOD this Saturday, what with horseboxes from Lambourn taking runners to Sandown and Chepstow, and confused racegoers driving backwards and forwards as they try to decide where to spend the afternoon.

Both the Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown and the Rehearsal Chase at Chepstow have attracted horses who may well be champions when the Festival concludes at Cheltenham in March, and the two courses could argue for the rest of the week about which race promises to be the better.

At Sandown, the former twomile champion Klairon Davis is expected to face Lake Kariba. Edredon Bleu and the first two home in last season's Arkle also the McCoy factor to con-Trophy - Or Royal and Hill Society - who were separated by the width of a toothpick in one of the best finishes of the Festival. If any or all of them line up for the next Queen Mother Champion Chase, they will not be quoted with the outsiders.

On hare form at least, Lake Kariba might be expected to start as favourite on Saturday. since he beat Edredon Bleu

don Chase at Exeter last month. Edredon Bleu improved significantly for that race, though, and came home 14 lengths clear of a strong field in the Peterborough Chase at Huntingdon 10 days ago. That, along with a record of consistent improvement last season which culminated in success in the Grand Annual Chase at the Festival, has persuaded Ladbrokes to install Henrietta Knight's runner at the head of their Tingle Creek market, at odds of just 2-1.

The price is a compliment to a horse who was simply a useful handicapper less than 12 months ago, but then there is sider. The champion jockey spent yesterday at the British Racing School in Newmarket, receiving advice on his whip action in an attempt to avoid a repeat of the riding ban which has kept him off the track for most of the last fortnight.

Saturday will be McCoy's first day back from his British ban, and there could be no better way to announce his return with some comfort in the Hal- than victory in a Grade One

chase. In theory, he has the choice of at least four possible runners, but it would be a surprise were he to choose anything other than Edredon Bleu. The next in the market is Lake Kariba, to be ridden by Timmy Murphy, at 11-4, while Hill Society, Paul Carberry's ride, is a 9-2 chance. Direct Route is 8-1, while Klairon Davis, the 1996 two-mile champion, is 9-1

Another significant ride for McCoy will be Blowing Wind, who was the early favourite yesterday in the sponsors' book on the William Hill Handicap Hurdle. Nomadic, who was beaten by Istabraq at Fairyhouse on Sunday, is next in the betting.

At Chepstow, meanwhile,

See More Business will attempt to win the Rehearsal Chase for the second year in succession. Earth Summit and Suny Bay, the top-rated chaser in Britain after his recent win in the Edward Hanmer Chase, are among his possible opponents, although Suny Bay is also entered in the Tommy Whittle Chase the following week. None the less, the latest weekend of the jumping season will be one which only the



Reach For The Clouds stretches his lead with a fine leap at Folkestone yesterday, eventually winning at odds of 3-1

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	Neltegri	ty die	s m	oments	after	wii

died when walking back in front had a haemorrhage as he just of the stands after winning at went down with me. It's all Worcester yesterday. The nineyear-old, trained by Pam Sly, beat Handy Lass by a length and a quarter to take the Tote Handicap Hurdle.

I'm devastated." The gelding's jockey, Warren

NELTEGRITY collapsed and Marston, said: "I think he's a warm favourite for the race not to hold an inquiry but did pulled up with a circuit to run. very, very sad as he gave me a great ride and galloped on bravely in the ground to win and

> Never In Debt, representing Venetia Williams, was sent off

she stated that the gelding was wards. The stewards decided explain it."

but proved a major flop when order a routine dope test. Never in Debt's rider, Nor-

The stewards quizzed man Williamson said later: "He Williams about the favourite's gave me no feel at all and just lacklustre performance and felt lifeless. I thought all he had to do was hack round to win but in a distressed state after- he never went a yard, I just can't

NEWCASTLE

2.25 Cottstown Boy 12.25 Dee Pee Tee Cee 12.55 NOSHINANNIKIN (nap) 2.55 Minster Gory (nb) 1.25 Ardent Scout

1.55 Dan De Man

GOING: Good to Soft (Soft in places).

El Left-hand, oval course, with rising run-in lough, galloping track.

El Course is on A1.5m N of town. Metro service to Four Lane Ends station from New-castle railway station. Bus service from there. ADMISSION: Club \$14 (\$12 for QAPs and caste raiway station Bus service from mere. Admission: Cub the initial for CAPs and registered disabled); Tettersalls 59 (67 for CAPs and registered disabled); Siver Ring 54 (52 for CAPs and registered deabled); CAR PARK: Free.

E LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley 43 winners from 181 runners (success rate 23.8%), J Howard Johnson 12-113 (101%), J Jefferson 11-47 (23.4%), M W Easterby 11-75 (14.7%), J FitzGerald 10-54 (18.5%), L Lungo 9-67 (13.4%).

ELEADING: IOCKESS: Elektron 23 west from 230 edge (18.5%).

■ LEADING JOCKEYS: P Niven 42 wms from 139 rides (success rate 30.2%), R Ger ritty 18-94 (191%), A Dobbin 16-15 (13.9%), B Storey 14-139 (10.1%), P Carberry 12-51 (23.5%).

FAVOURITES: 146 wms in 333 races (43.6%).
BLINKERED PIRST TIME: Three Lakes (visored, 325).

12.25 TOMMY O'CONNOR NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m Penalty Value £2,379

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ESS GIRL (F171) (J Morrs) L Lloyd-James 5 10 7.... M H Naughton (5)

Truth, 16-1 Eat Your Pear, 20-1 De Oralie, Desent Cat, Donna's Dancer, High Pyrenees, Northern ord, Nampara Bay, 25-1 others 1997: Meeting abandoned because of snow and frost

FORM GUIDE

Tessajoe: Useful middle-distance Flat handcapper Jumped well to beat Classical Dance a length on Sedgefield (2m 1f) hundles debut. Open to improvement but more to do Burning Truth: Useful mile handicapper at best on the Flat, but drew a blank last term and often looked irresolute. Hurdles debut

Cartisle Bay: Group Three-placed for John Oxx in Ireland as a juvenile but drew a Dank in three outings up to 1m 21 last term for new handler. Hurdles debut Classic Blues: Had Finday's Newbury winner Brambiehill Duke 14 lengths behind when 11 lengths 2nd of 7 to Farfields Prince at Wetherby (2m nov hitle), Jumps well, open to

nprovement and one to consider We Pee Tee Cee: 6-tone winner on the Flat at three but drew a blank last lerm. Fair ebut when staying-on 7 lengths 3rd of 11 to Ahraydoubleyou at Market Rasen (2m 11 nov halle) and should improve

De Oralle: Placed once in 6 outings on minor circuit in Ireland. Needs to improve on latest 25 lengths 3rd of 13 to The Mickletonan at Sedgefield (2m 5f nov hidle) Desert Cot: Musselburgh 7/ handicap winner in September. Hurdles debut Donna's Dancer: Mile plater on the Pat. Hurdles debut General Academy: Little encouragement in four outings last season, the lat 14 lengths 8th of 19 behind Normana at Hurilingdon (2m 4f nov hoap holle)

renees: Ayr maiden winner on Flat in 1995. Disappointing since and sidelined since 9 lengths 8th of 9 to Tessayoe at Alipon (hm 4) hcap) in July 1997 Lord Lamb: Bumper winner and useful Flat stayer, scoring at Haydock (Im 6f), Reportedly lame when 11th in Casarewitch, Bull for jumping and inharesting recruit Northern Accord: Winner twice up to tim 21 for Lynda Ramsden lest Rat. Signs of abil-ity on sole hurdles outings 12 months ago, finishing 33 lengths 5th of 16 to Virtuoso at

hy on sole nurses outries it morns ago, arisining 33 lengths set of to to virtuose at Ultroweer (2m nov hole). Otterburn Lad: Well beaten if two bumper starts. Hurdles debut. The Roundstills: Signs of ability in week company at Ludlow and Pertin last term but taked off on latest start and plenty to do here. Allerbecks Urtle sign of ability in 9 outrings. 200-1 and eoon taked off when pulled up 4 out in race won by Cope With Reality at Air (2m 6t nov hole) latest. Eat Your Pear: Patring-class maiden on Pat. Some late headway when 15 lengths 5th of thin Cont. Time at Cetterock Company latest perform find.

of 10 to Count Tony at Cattenck (2m nov holle) in February. Plenty to find

Holderness Girt: Signs of ability in bumpers Meking hurdles debut. Nampara Bay: Plating-class sprinter on Flat two seasons ago, Jumps debut She's All Heart: Little sign of ability so far and jumped moderately when beaten distance behind Hardacre at Heithern (2m nov hdie)

VERDICT: Mary Reveley's smart Flat stayer Lord Lamb is the Interesting candidate here, but long-distance horses have a sketchy record over briber, particularly at the minimum trip. There could be more value in CLASSIC BLUES, who progressed from his first outing with a useful second at Wetherby and has the Reveley stable jodkey. Peter Niven aboard. Dee Pee Tee Cee and Tessajoe look the pick of the remainder.

	12.55	JOE WAKE 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE (QUALIFIER) (E) 23,000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value \$2,285
1	455-1	ANNAYDOUBLEYOU (T7) (R Melish, A Share) Mrs S Sman 5 11 TD R Wilkinson (5)
2	25-142	DATEM (134) (M D Hammond) M Hammond 6 ft 5,
3		MOSHINAMBITKIN (18) (CD) (Slephen J Curts) M W Easterby 4 11 5
4	P-6P03	EDSTONE (63) (Mrs M E Curis) J Curis 6 11 0 E Callaghan B
5	0/50-5	OH SO COSY (16) (Nr & Mrs Raymond Anderson Green) C Parker 5 11 0 B Storey
6	i 30-	RODDERS (232) (BF) (R W Metcalle) J Glover 5 11 0
3		SHANNON SHOON (21) (Mrs S Smath) Mrs S Smath 6 11 0
A	1 P1-0	SPLENDID MELODY (20) (8 T Siewart-Rown) T Tale 4 11 0

Newton Abbot 2.35

Sesson Dusta 2-1 2-1 7-4 9-4 5-8

Gigi Beach <u>52 52 3-1 11-4 3-1</u>

True Fortune 9-1 9-1 6-1 15-2 7-1

Moorland Highlity 10-1 12-1 11-1 12-1 12-1

Each way, a quarter the colds, places 1, 2

C Corel. H. Wim Hill, L. Landbrokes, S. Skarnley, T. Tota

7-2 7-2 7-2 3-1 10-3

61 11-2 61 11-2 61

FORM GUIDE FORM GUIDE

Altraydoubleyou: Confirmed burnper promise with resolute 5 lengths win over Smart Soy at Market Rasen (2m 1f nov hole. Open to improvement over this longer time. Datem: Tramore 2m 6f winner in June for Ted Welsh and 4 lengths runner-up to Megical Way at Ballimobe tollowing month on latest start. Will need something more here Noshinamilidin: Burnper-placed before impressive winning hundles debut over CID, beating Formidable Partner 10 lengths despite blunder at the last. Scope for improvement Edistorie: Improved performance when 12 lengths and 6 to Cathedral Belle at Sedge-field (2m 5f nov hole) but more to find and 9-week lay-off is a worry. Oh So Coay: Interesting recoult following several promising efforts in bumpers, but from a yard whose jumper debut at Market Rasen in March but virtually pulled up when favourite on only subsequent start. Well thought of and one to note in betting Shannon Shoon: Little sign of ability so tar, 33-1 when unseated note at the 2nd in race won by Substeinfluence at Huntingdon 2m nov hole) latest Splendid Melody; trish point-to-point winner. Promising debut when 56 lengths 7th of 3 to Hidebound in storing Newbury 2m nov hole and looks sure to be in the hunt Storiehilli: Winning Irish point-to-pointer. One to note in the market on huntles debut.

is to Hidebound in strong Newbury 2m now hale and looks sure to be in the hunt Stonehill: Winning hish point-to-pointer. One to note in the market on hurdes debut Tell Miconty: Odd sign of abitity last term, notably when staying on 25 lengths 6th of 19 to Auto Piot at Wetherby (2m 4f nov hale) on final start. Open to Improvement Asierigg Venture: Improved effort when staying on 13 lengths 3rd of 13 to Noshmannian at Newcastle (2m 4f nov hale) but will struggle to turn tables with only 5lb pull Chariffly RosesOnly moderate so far and pterity to find on latest 26 lengths 7th of 12 to Donnybrook at Hexham (2m nov hale) in May Kingsanter Placed in Insh point-to-point before 22 lengths 7th of 4 to Buckskin Cameo

Kingennie: Placed in Insh point-to-point perore 22 rengine 1 to 10 Revolt at Wetherby (2m 4f nov hole) in January.

VERDICT: There appears to be planty more to come from NOSHINANNIKIN, who should have little trouble confirming the form with Askrigg Venture. He will find this company lougher, however, and will need to be on he mettle to beat Splendid Melody taking a step down in class from Newbury – and Kingermie, who will be sharper for her bumper outing and has already proved her jumping ability.

1.25 ANDY BARKER NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m Penalty Value £3,680

O4B-IU ARDENT SCOUT (7) (R Melish, Mr.; A Scare & W S Stene) Mrs S Smath 6 11 4S Durack.
17-P1 HOUSE CAPTAIN (12) (7) (B Mel G Middlebrook; J FitzGerald 9 11 4 R Gambby
57-2F BOBBY GRANT (18) (7) (BF) (John J Thompson) C Grant 7 10 12 ... C McConnack (5)
RU1R/2 CASTLETOWN COUNT (37) (D) (Abbotis Sallord Caravan Park) M W Easterby 6 10 2... GREENFINCH (CAN) (33) (Lack The Lacks) F Murtagh 7 to 12 A Dok

11 declared -11 declared -BETTING: 2-1 House Captain, 7-2 Ardent Scoot, 9-2 Bobby Grant, 5-1 Into The Black, 7-1 Castle-

gram Count, 8-1 Tom's Tip, 14-1 Irish Spirit, 25-1 others

FORM GUIDE

Anderd Scout: Had yesterday's Kalso winner Birkdale a length in arrears when making a winning chasing debut at Carisle (2m 4f) but unseared early in a hot contest at Wordester last time. Looks a smart recruit and may be worth another chance House Capitain: Formerly smart handicap hundle. Impressive debut over tences at Sedgefield (2m 5f nov ch) when jumping well to beat this The Black an easy 11 lengths with two previous winners farther back. Looks the one to beat Bobby Grant: Jumping errors when 5 lengths 2nd to Master Wood at Carisle (2m 4f) and unseated when going well in Master Nove's race over this C/D last time. Chance the contribution as the contribution of the can provide the can provide a carrier to the contribution of the can provide the can prov

and unseated when going well in Master Nove's race over this C/D last time. Chance if he can put in a clear round in a clear round castletown Count: Former point-to-ponter. Should strip finter for 11 lengths 2nd to Woodfield Gale over hurdles at Wetherby (2m 4f.) and is one to note in the petting Greentfind's Moderate form in handicap company early last season. Little encouragement when pulled up 3 out behind lim The Men at Sedgelfeld (3m 3f hoap ch) on reappearance into The Black: Winning hurdler. Appeared to need farther when 11 lengths 2nd of 12 to House Capitari on Sedgeffield 2m 5f nov chase debut and will struggle to tim tables on the winner with only a 5to pull. Extra 3f in his favour histh Spirits inship point-to-point winner. Quietly backed but jumped poorly and pulled up 2 out in race won by The Snow Burn on chase debut at Hersham (3m 1f) Notoobig: Little promise when last of 8 to Charley Lambert on Carlisie chase debut Seaburn: Little sign of ability. 100-1 chance when led 4th on Hersham chase debut

Seaburn: Little sign of ability, 100-1 chance when tell 4th on Hexham chase debut The Other Man: Placed once in 10 hurdles outrigs. Fell 2nd on Worcester chase debut Toni's Tip: Placed in useful company over tences in Ireland for Wilde Burke but jumped moderately when well-backed 37 lengths 8th of 12 to House Capitain as Sedgefield on British debut. Clearly capable of better but best form in blinkers.

VERDICT: Much the best of these over hundes, HOUSE CAPTAIN cut a very promireg figure when romping home at Sedgefield on his chasing debut. He has plenty more on his plate here against numer-up into The Black, the well thought-of Ardent Scout, Bobby Grant, Castletown Count and Toni's Tip but will strip a good deal fitter and half to a first property of the contractions of the property of the contractions.

44324	RALLEGIÓ (225) (CD) (P Monteith) P Monteith 9 11 12 T Hagger (5)
	DAN DE MAN (14) (CD) (David J Poulter Pertnershop Mas L Scient 7 11 10 T Siddell
3240-3	APOLLO'S DAUGHTER (16) (D) (Mrs M Goulding) J Goulding 10 to 2L Cooper (5)
32335	KRERCHEM (12) (D) (Mrs M Hunter) C Grant 7 ti 1 C McCtrenack
P6P-42	RADAMPOUR (12) (D) (Terry Poliock) J Howard Johnson 6 11 1
F025-4	WYNYARD LADY (14) (D) (Lady Mee Hall) Mrs M Reveley 7 10 To G Lee
3/FU0-	LATIN LEADER (202) (CD) (Air & Mirs Raymond Anderson Green) C Parker 8 10 J
	N Horrocks B
-\$0\$00	TOFINO SWELL (16) (Mrs H O Gratern) Mrs H Gratern 6 10 0
	- 8 declared -
inum wei	dd 10d Tola Imerican weirith Telino Swell 9sl 20s

Ratiogio: Without a run since April, though a winner from Pariah when joint topweight over this top in testing ground at Ayr in January 3to higher mark today but capable n: Won better race than this at Wetherby (2m4f) 14 days ago, beating Russ-

Dan De Man: Won better race than this at Wetherby (2m-41) ¼: days ago, beating Russian Aspect 2 lengths with Wynyard Lady staying on in 4th. 8th higher mark here Apollo's Daughter: Two-mile specialist and raced over 2m-4t on reappearance (3rd to Cottstown Boy at Ayr). Will like the ground and return to the minimum Kierchems: First-flight tatler at Sedgefield last time and better on a faster surface, 9th higher mark since the Sedgefield in in. July though decent efforts since in hotter races Radampour: Mainly disappointing since his wins in Ireland but better showing when tirted in birrikers at Sedgefield last time (beaten 2 lengths by Country Orchid). Wynyard Lady: Dual bumper witner and successful over hurdlers at Kelso. Kept on when 13 lengths behind Dan De Man at Wetherby (2m-4t) and now 8th better off Latin Leader: All wits gained in sellers, the latest on this course and 8th lower today Toffino Swellt: Has shown virtually nothing and beaten 27 lengths behind Eastern Project at Ayr lest time.

VERDICT: Wymyard Lady has a healthy 8th pull with DAN DE MAN on Wetherby form when both made their reappearance. Today's storter trip should not bather Dan De Man, though Wymyard Lady may need a bit further Apollo's Daughter was in a better race on her reappearance and Radanpour shaped better in binkers last time.

2.25 JOHN COLLIER HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 3m Penalty Value £2,773

2501-1 ALPINE PANTHER (15) (C) (P D Savil) Mrs M Reveley 5 12 J... 12th MERRY MASQUERADE (225) (D) (G S Brown) Mrs M Revely 7 th 4 ... G Lee 31-01 PALACE OF GOLD (13) (C) (D) (Andrew W 9 Duncam) L Lungo 8 to 13 W Dowling (5) 1-3041 COTTSTOWN BOY (16) (D) (The Hori Thomas Cochrane) Mrs S Bradburne 7 to 10 1FW2P SISTER ROSE (7) (D) (BF) (R & R M Taylor G Brewer J Kastworthy) S Gollings 7 to 2

FORM GUIDE

Alpine Panther: Simple task, though pushed north out, in Plumpton claimer on read pearance (beat Aubum Boy 6 lengths). More to do here under 12st over longer inp Livito: Decent winning stayer at his best, though off the course last season. Talled off behind, Justin Mac at Kelso on reappearance over trip too short Merry Masquerade: Improved stayer last season with muddy wins at Ayr (twice) and toweter (threshed Mess Breckned 28 lengths). 6th higher and first run since April dace Of Gold: Hardy gelding who improved for his Kelso run to best Smith Too in the fashion at Haydock. 5th higher mark but has leading charice game fashion at Haydock. 5th higher mark but has leading chance Cottstown Boy: Winner at Kelso and Perth throce) this year and namowly best Globe Runner at Ayr (2m4) last time Loron Wiyer interestingly takes over from amatisur Sister Rose: Has won staying races this year at Uttoweter, Stratford and Market Rasen. Pulled up at Market Rasen a week ago but fine chance at her best

nche Creek: Reverted to hurdes last time after poor chase efforts and hard o fancy on latest talled off effort behind Woodfield Gale here Johns The Boy: Chase winner at Perth last year but disapporting over fer

Probably best watched over hurdles today Viliprano: Creditable 2nd to The Next Waltz at Ayr last time and won a weak handicap over the course and distance last term (beat Cypress Avenue). Has each-way claims

VERDICT: Mary Reveley's two numers look bestable with Alpine Parither humping 12st and Nerry Masquerade having his first run since April The booking of note is Lorcan Wyer Liking over on the usually ameticur-notein COTTSTOWN BOY, a progressive sort last backend and a winner at Ayr 16 days ago Recent Haydock winner Palace Of Gold will run his

2.55 JOHN WILKINSON HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) 25,000 added 2m 110yds Penalty Value 23,469

— 8 tectatrot —
Mnumum weight: 10st True handicap weight, Moss Pegeant 9st 4th,
BETTING: 5-2 Minster Glory, 7-2 Golden Hello, 5-1 Monyman, 11-2 Political Tower, 5-1 Battery Fired,
10-1 Moss Pegeant, 12-1 Know-Ho-No, 16-1 Wee River

FORM GUIDE

ten Helio: Outdessed at Chaltenham last time (last of 5 to Green Green Desert) after solution retains outcasses and selection as the second of the second of the second of the second out of Micky Hammond's stable for 6,000gns, All wins on fastish ground and probably best waiched on reappearance Monyman: Lightly-raced last season when best run resulted in 2nd to Pennybridge at Afri-

tree. Well enough handcapped but first run of season and prefers faster ground. Political Tower: Beeten 8 lengths into 3rd by Golden Hello at Wetherby (Bib better here) and then last-tence casualty at Ayr after being left in front by Welsh March. Chances here because he would have beaten eventual winner form Brodie, who won next time up because the way take beauting the second systems of the second sec ry Fired: Won week race at Stratford in October and ran poorly a week later when

pulled up behind Nearly An Eye at Worcester. Probably unsuited by soft ground Minaster Glory: Dodgy jumper last season but did little wrong when beating stablemate issyin here on his reappearanca.(Moss Pageant 15 lengths admit). Remains on a good handicap mark
Moss Pageant: Fitter for two comeback attempts but a pound worse off with Minster Glory

VEHDICT: Paul Carberry won on MINSTER GLORY lest season and the barg-in-form instrum will be attempting a pillar-to-post success on Mick Easterby's recent course winner, who holds all the aces carrying just 10st 2b. Golden Hello still retains his pace and deserves the big weight against this opposition, and Political Tower should get closer to this rivel on the revised terms after Wetherby.

3	25	HARRY DIXON STANDARD OPEN NH FLAT RACE
٧,	20	(CLASS H) £1,500 added 2m Penalty Value £1,319.
I		RATHURE (510) (J W P Curts) J Curts 6 til 11 E Catleghan
2	1-	TONOCO (227) (D) (Trevor Hermings) Mrs S Smith 5 Ti ft S Darack
}		BREA HILL (A W.K. Merram) F Murphy 5 17 4
l		BUSTED FLAT (R Burnidge) Mrs J Brown 5 tf 4
,	0	BUTELAND BOY (22) (J.L. Gedson) J Gledson 6 1 4 K Johnson
	G00-	COME AND RUN (225) (Winton Bloodstock Ltd) M W Easterby 4 11 4 P Carbony
,		CUCHULAININ (H R C Catheresood) N Richards 6 11 4 A Dobbin
ı		FEAR SILUL (D M Forster) D M Forster 5 to 4
•		GENERAL LOUIS (J I, Walberk) F Murphy 4 Ti 4
0	0	JAVAMAN (22) (W Michaesty R Golde 6 to 4
i	-	JOHNNY JOE (Curre Group) Litungo 5 ti 4
,	7	KALANTE (26) (Mrs G M Sturges) J FitzGerald 5 11 4 C McCormack (5)
9		NATIVE AFFAIR (204) (Strainsyr Publishing Ltd) L Lungo 4 7/ 4
4	•	NECODEMUS (Mrs Jermier E Palister) T Easterby 4 11 4
		RED ARK (Mrs D B Mason) N Mason 5 11 4
6	,	STOP THE GOSSIP (16) (Mrs J Cookson) B Mactaggar(4 th 4
7	,	SUPREME FORTUNE (Supreme Partnership) Mrs M Reveley 4 11 4 Mr A Dempsey (3)
r B		THREE LAKES (49) (Raebum Brick Lingerd) Semple 4 17 4 B Harding V
-	30-0	
		TIME OF FLIGHT (Andy Peake & David Jackson) Mrs M Reveley 5 tl 4
0		VERTUOUS CIRCLE (Fixed Precision Managing Ltd) B Elison 4 11 4. Nr K R O'Ryen (7)
1		CHEFFTY MAGE (Five Square Partners) Mrs S Bradburne 5 10 to Miles L Bradburne (7)
2	00-	MARTHA'S MOONSTONE (287) (Mrs. L. A Termon) J Charleon 4 10 13

- 22 declared -BETTING: 3-1 Nicodemus, 7-2 Supreme Fortune, 4-1 Tonoco, 11-2 Bree Hill, 8-1 Johnny Joe, Red Ark. 10-1 Time of Right, 12-1 Cuchyleion, Rathure, Kalante, Stop The Gossip, 14-1 others

FORM GUIDE

Ratthure: Beat 11 rivals in bumper at Naas in July, 1967. Has changed stables and first out-Tonoco: Carne with late run to beat Chief Red Nose on debut at Ayr in April, Stiffer task sere with a penalty on softer ground but cannot be diamiss Brea Hill: Newcomer son of Brotherly and from a stable to be respected in these races.

resting lockey booking sted Flat: Bustino newcomer likely to need the experience Buteland Boy: Tailed off at Cartisle last season and seamingly with little chance today Cuchulainn: Kings Ride newcomer bred for further, though stable had a welcome winner

at Kalso yesterday Fear Stull: Newcomer son of class are Strong Gale. Worth noting with Adnah Magure up General Louis: Governor General newcomer and from the stable of Brea Hill Javannam: Talled off at Carlisle on only start lest term Johnsoy Joe: Son of Camden Town and from larsely of the talented Cockney Lad. Must be od with the stable in fine form. Stable also runs Native Affa Kallanier Faded in closing stages when a 16 langth 3rd to Gentile Rivage at Haydock. Likely to improve but this could turn out to be a hetter race

Native Affair: in front 21 out only to linish 7th in Killerney bumper in May. First run here for the in-form Len Lungo, who also saddles Johnny Joe emus: Half-brother to the very smart Simply Dashing and out of a mare who won a 2m hardia. Must rate a leading contender on debut Red Aria: Has a decent pedigrae for the job, being a son of Guinner B out of a Rymer mare. Stable to be respected so the market worth watching Stop The Gossig: Up with the leaders throughout when a 6 lengths 3rd to Lord Of The

reme Fortune: One of two Mary Reveley runners. Fine pedigree (Supreme Leader out f Lucylet) and sure to go well three Lakes: Has twice Ropped since a debut 3rd to Crazy Horse at Ayr and now visored. Time Of Flight: Newcomer by Over The Fliver, Stablemete of Supreme Fortune and from a stable with a fine record in these races Virtuous Circle: Son of Rolle and Rively to need the run

Cherry Image: Daughter of Mirror Boy unificially to be good enough on debut Martha's Moonstone: Well basten on two starts last term (lied to halfwey on latter start)

VERDICT: The booking of Conor O'Dwyer for Breat Hill very much takes the eye Tono-co is the runner with winning form to respect but the 7th penalty has to be defied. Other interesting newcorners include Johnny Joe, Feer Skill, Nicodemius and Supreme For-turie, but the vote goes to RED ARK, who is from the Norman Mason stable that hit the

NEWTON ABBOT

HYPERION

1.05 Estate Agent 1.35 Royal Toast 2.05 Andy Clyde 2.35 Baroncelli 3.05 Fortytwo Dee 3.35 Wontcostalotbut

GOING: Soft (Heavy in places).

Left-hand, sharp, course with short run-in.

Course is N of town on A380, Newton Abbot station 1m. ADMIS-Ecurse s N of town on A380. Newton Abbot station 1m. ADMS-SION: Tattersalls £10; Course £5. Accompanied under-16s free. CAR PARK: On rais £150, remander free. ■ LEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 99-357 (277%), P Hobbs 55-32 (302%), P Nicholis 35-47 (238%), R Frost 25-245 (102%), ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 69-214 (322%), R Durwoody 45-134 (336%). J Frost 24-198 (121%), C Moude 18-110 (16.4%). ■ FAVOURITES: 293 MINS. 10 570 (730es (43.7%).

1.05 COME GREYHOUND RACING 'NH' NOVICE HDLE (E) £3,000 added 2m 11

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None

1 F31-2 BEAU (14) N Twiston Denes 5 10 12 C Llowellyn
2 3-COXWELL COSSACK (22) Mss H Knght 5 10 2. J Culloby
3 10-22 ESTATE AGENT (11) (D) (BF) P Nordes 5 10 12 J Tazard
4 5400-F SANDORAN (14) M H3 5 10 12 D Salbar (3)
00-4 WRIGLEY'S (203) A Carol 5 10 12 M Morston
6 000-34 CEUTIC LAND (19) P Frost 5 10 7 J Frost
7 PPURF SID'S PRETENCE (81) Mts. J Sonvers 7 10 7 G Shenidin (5)
6 35455- SPARKLING BUCK (258) N Aytine 6 10 7 L Culturalins (3)
- 8 declared -

BETTING: 4-11 Estate Agent, 5-1 Beau, 12-1 Conveil Cossack, Celtic Land, 20-1 Sparking Buck, 25-1 Wrigley's, 33-1 others FORM VERDICT Beau has possibilities on his harding debut, but this is an obvious opportunity for ESTATE AGENT, who has come off second best to useful types in his two attempts over hurdes. He travelled best for most of the way at Ascot last time, and this less demanding test of stamma should suit him better.

1.35 COME RACING ON BOXING DAY NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 110vds

FORM VERDICT

A fair event for the track, and one likely to be run at a true pace A hair event to the drap, and one likely so that is a thoughts with Blade Of Fortune expected to blaze the trail Lack of a recent run could prove a disadvantage for Sol Music but, like so many of his stablemates of late. Royal Thought is United by to want for fitness. He should an obvious chaler to look at however, and KINGSFOLD PET, who has already shown some aptitude and was the pick of these over hurdles, is a fair each-way option.

2.05 WEST COUNTRY LADY RIDERS' NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 1f

3 3409-7 HAPPY MINISTRAL (19) P Notatis 4 11 8 Michelle Hopkins 2 4 Onto Canto de La Canto

Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: The Boccing Birel 9st 13lb. Astral Weeks 5st 120s, Sandares 9st 3b. BETTIMG: 54 Elegant Des Cosses, 7-2 Happy Minstral, 5-1 Fridolin, 5-1 Cento. 8-1 Andy Chyte, 25-1 The Boccing Brief, Sandania, 50-1 Astral

FORM VERDICT An opportunity for ELEGANT DES COSSES, who made virtually all all Eveter, to dominate The trip could be on the short side for Centro and Andry Clydie, while there is a question mark against Fridolin's ability to handle the ground.

2.35 TOTE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £10,000 added 3m 2f V 110vds

U2-41F MOORLAND HIGHFLYER (148) (CD) A Hobbs 7 17 1.

BETTING: 5-2 Gigi Beach, 2-1 Saxon Duke, 7-2 Baroncelli, 6-1 Bally Lim, 9-1 True Fortune, 10-1 Moorland Highlyer **FORM VERDICT** GIGI BEACH was no motch for Mister Balos here last month, but the form looks solid and he could be open to improvement. The danger could be Berombelli, who may have improved enough to

reverse lest sesson's Exeter placings with Saxon Duke.

3.05 TIM BOUNDEN MEMORIAL NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m 5f 110yds

- 6 declared -Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Fliver Gate 9st 13th, Spy Dessa SECTING: 5-2 Zaggy Lane, 7-2 Sonorugun, Azvasaksa, 6-1 Fortyaru Dee, 8-1 Forever Dregning, 10-1 Contraanche Hero, 12-1 River Gale, 33-1 Spy

FORM VERDICT ZAGGY LANE came a purier at the first in a valuable novices' chase at Worcester last week, but should be given another chance to fulfil the promise of his previous third at Cheltenham in a race run in baster time than the Murphy's Gold Cup. He revels in the ground. and a clear round would be expected to see him account for some ordinery opposition on a potentially favourable mark

3.35 WALRUS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m 6f -43204 WONTCOSTALOTBUT (b) M Wikinson 4 tf 10 W Marston

... Miss 5 Jackson B
- 5 declared BETTING: 6-4 Shedirven, 9-4 Worldcostalotbut, 9-2 Whitebornet, 11-2

FORM VERDICT Blue Blazer, dropped into selling company last time (left) has claims on last seasons form, but there is a question-mark against his wall-being (a comment which also applies to Fency That and Whiteconnet) in the circumstances, the likely market leaders should commate, with WONTCOSTALOTBUT rated more reliable than

Prize from Piggott

ter Shop Manager of the Year Lester Piggott.

Sky (winner since) at Ayr. Likely to improve

ANTHONY O'HARA, who runs at a ceremony in London. Stanley Racing's betting shop O'Hara received his prize, at Holmeside in Sunderland, which included a trophy and a was yesterday named the Bet- holiday in the Far East, from

Chelte	nham G	old Cup water Has	(3m 2f 1	10yds) Szenky	Tota
Florida Pearl	4-1	41	5-1	7-2	9-2
See More Business	B-1	7-1	8-1	8-1	8-1
Cylor Malta	10-1	10-1	7:1	9-1	11-1
Dorane Pride	12-1	10-1	10-1	12-1	12-1
Escerteligue	14-1	10-1	141	12-1	11-1
Surry Bay	12-1	12-1	10-1	70-1	14-1
Teston Mill	14-1	14-1	14-1	14-1	20-1
Unamkable Boxer	20-1	14-1	14-1	16.1	16-1
Boss Doyle	20-1	20-1	20-1	15.1	20-1
Imperial Call	20-1	16-1	16-1	14-1	25-1
Earthmover	25-1	20-1	16-1	16-t	25-1
Simply Dashing	<u> 16-1</u>	20-1	20-1	25-1	16-1
Cool Dawn		ක ₋₁	33-1	33-1	33-1
Соста НВ	33-1	33-1	40-1	25-1	Z-1
The Grey Monk	40-1		33-1	33-1	25-1

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England lack the will to succeed

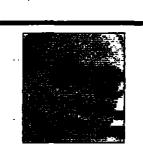
ENGLAND CLEARLY had the best of two of the first three days of the series in Brisbane and, to all outward appearances, have thereafter been

The batting has been worse than the bowling, as has often been the case in Anstralia. But the fielding and catching - oh dear! It may seem strange to say that if England had held all their catches, they would have had a chance of winning both matches. A total of 10 have been missed in these first two Tests and, if they had been caught, it would have meant a big turnaround.

Three went down on the first day at the Gabba. The first, from Michael Slater to a diving Nasser Hussain at second slip, was not expensive. Australia had reached 178 for 5 when lan Healy joined Steve Waugh and both should have been out before the close of play

dropped at third man by Angus Fraser and, just before the rse, Waugh, who had made 68 and finished with 112, played back to Gough and Hussain, going again to his right at second slip, dropped the catch. If those two had been held. Australia would have been about 230 for 7, or even less, that night. With the new ball only eight overs old, the last three wickets would surely not have been too much of a problem the next

England's first-innings total of 375 would have given them The importance of those two made three more.



HENRY BLOFELD

IN PERTH

dropped catches becomes ineradicably clear.

We moved on to Perth. England's poor and dispirited batting on the first day has been universally blamed for losing the match, but what if all the catches had stuck? In Australia's first innings, no less than six were put down.

Slater, who made 34, was Healy, when he had made 36 dropped by Ben Hollioake, on on his way to 134, heaved at as substitute, in the gully when Darren Gough and was he was 15. He had scored 10 more when he drove at Alex Tudor and Graeme Hick, at second slip, palmed the ball over the bar. When Mark Taylor, who made 61, had reached 38, he drove at Gough and Hick dropped a straightforward one at second slip at knee height.

On the second morning, Steve Waugh, who was 11 at the time, on the way to 33, cut Alan Mullally only just over Mark Butcher's head at third slip. Later, when he was 20, he drove Gough to Mullally at wide mid off and he missed another straightforward one. At the lead and the mood end, Ricky Ponting, who was ferent when Australia began into and out of Gough's hands their hectic second innings. at fine leg although he only



مكذا من الاصا:

The long walk: A dejected Darren Gough troops off as the big screen shows his lbw verdict

Of course, the effect of these drops cannot be calculated just by adding up the runs scored by each batsman after they had been missed. If the catches had been held there would have been a knock-on effect as the pattern of the whole innings would have been different.

tainly still have had a first innings lead but a much smaller one and a target of 150 or so in Australia would almost cer- return catch from Slater.

Unremitting hard work in greater fallibility of Anglo-Saxpractice is surely the only cure, the fourth innings could have if all the coaches adopt the been a nasty proposition for right routine in practice. To has quite a lot to do with menthem. As it was, they lost their cure faults are what coaches tal toughness, determination first three batsmen for 36. chas- are for and, if this epidemic con- and the will to success - in fact, ing only 64, and, even then, Multinues, one can only ask if they with the whole approach to the lally had dropped an easy are doing their job properly. job - and it is the Australians

ons because most, if not all, the although it makes one wonder Australians are shoots off the It cannot just be down to the who point the way here.

FORM VERDICT

It could be worth siding with STATELY FAVOUR, who won over 5' here earlier in the year. She can be excused her last two below-par efforts on the surface and has the best of the draw. She is taken to best Blue Kits, who has a good chance on his best form.

2.45 GREENWICH MERIDIAN SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) £2,500 added 7f

2.43 STAKES (CLASS G) £2,500 acticled 7f
1 03100 BLISHING GRENADER (11) S Bownin 695
2 12630 BOLD ARISTOCRAT (18) (C) R Holinsheaf 7950 Sweeniny 4
3 06004D DANDY REGIRNT (7) (D) JL Harms 495 ... STRighton (7) 8
4 20203 GARNOCK VALLEY (11) JBerry 895 ... G Carter 7 B
5 1044 MOST RESPECTRUL (11) (C) N Tritider 995 ... Mr Inhiber 11
6 10402 SALTY BEHAVIOUR (15) (D) (B) P Evans 495 A. Cultivare 5
7 30L05 SHAPP MONOEY (8) (C) Mrs N Mecauley 395 A. Frincing 3
9 500050 JOHANY STACCATO (19) R OS Jávan 48 13 ... J Fanning 3
9 500050 JOHANY STACCATO (19) R OS Jávan 48 13 ... J Fanning 3
10 500050 JOHANY STACCATO (19) R OS Jávan 48 13 ... J Fanning 3
11 000400 LOCH STYLE (11) Mas S Williamson 58 13 ... J Fanning 8
12 000040 LOCH STYLE (11) Mas S Williamson 58 13 ... J Fanning 8
13 000025 TAILWAND (11) W Mar 48 13 ... Jemny Bernann (7) 13
14 00003 TOM (8) C Pairturst 38 13 ... G Duffield 16 V 15 02004 ZAHRAN (15) (U) JM Brackey 76 15 ... J C Carver (7) 12
15 000040 WELL SMART (11) O Caroll 38 8 ... J P Spensor (3) 2
18 SETTING 7.2 Satis Beharders 1.25 Red A Attemport 7.4 Gemock Valley

- 16 declared -SETTING: 7-2 Saity Behaviour, 11-2 Bold Aristocrat, 7-1 Germock Valley, Tallwind, 8-1 Blushing Grenadier, Most Respectful, Tom. 10-1 others

FORM VERDICT

Nigel Tinkler's MOST RESPECTFUL has shown consistent form in times outings on Fibresand and goldtes trip well when fourth to Mutabassir last time. Tailwind is taken for the forecast.

3.15 ARCTIC CIRCLE HANDICAP (CLASS F)
(DIV II) £3,000 added 1m 3f

335023 MANFUL (11) (CD) J Hetherton 6 9 13....... T Sprake 4 8 4500 YES KEEMO SABEE (17) B McMahon 3 9 10 V Haliiday 8

2 4500 YER KEENO SABEE (17) B McMahon 3 9 0 ... V Halliday 8 3 30000 REGGLE BUCK (USA) (297) JI. Harris 4 9 9 ... A Clark 1 06403 MY LITTLE HANN (14) 8 Frent 3 9 5 ... R. Parham 11 5 600430 UP IN RIAMES (19) (C) (B) S Bowmg 7 9 4 ... C Requal (3) 8 6 50405 BE WALLANT (18) Ms N Macausy 4 9 1 ... Dean McKlaown 7 V 20500 SPA LANE (6) Min S Lampens 5 8 2 ... R. Lappi 14 8 3200 CRARGARY (1298) Min A Switchark 7 6 10 ... G Duffield 6 9 055-05 LAN PERFER (94) J Smirs 5 8 10 ... G Carter 5 10 640320 NAPOLEON'S RETURN (15) J L Eyre 5 8 8 ... C Loudter 16 10 102-30 DANCHIG-ALONE (6) D Morns 8 8 7 ... R Studholore (5) 10 2 400000 GYMACRAK MYSTERY (11) G Holmes 3 8 5 ... R Winstan (3) 2 13 000001 BOLD SARAH (LES) R Hollinshead 4 8 4 ... D Sweeney 15 0 60000 HGR-SPEED (70) P Felgles 6 8 3 ... C Cogan (7) 13 5 000 SLEAVE SLK (86) W Masson 3 8 2 ... F Norton 12 6 000030 PROUD BRIGADIER (10) M R Bosley 10 7 12 ... P Dos (5) 3 ... 16 declared -... 17 Declared 1 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10 ... 18 10

- P Dos (5) 3

- 16 declared BETTING: 7-2 Menths, 9-2 the in Flemes, 13-2 My Little Man, 9-1 Napoleon's Return, 12-1 Yes Keemo Sabet, Reggle Buck, Spe Lane, Jean Pierre, Dancing-Alona, 18-1 others

FORM VERDICT

The best advice is to have a good bet on MANFUL. He is well transficapped on his best form over this C&D and was not ideally disgraced on his first outing for a new stable here last time. Be Vallant, unproven on this surface, could go well if adepting.

Slowly does it as S Africa take revenge

IT TOOK them almost four and BY TONY COZIER a half tense hours and 62.4 overs, but South Africa's batsmen diligently accumulated the modest 164 runs they needed to beat the West Indies by four wickets in the first Test at the Wanderers five minutes before tea yesterday.

The result erased the memory of their loss in their only previous Test in Barbados in March, 1992, when their last eight wickets tumbled for 28 on the final day, and it earned them an early advantage in the series, the first between the teams in South Africa.

Setting out on their mission from the start of a hot, sunny day, South Africa needed nerves of steel and perfect judgement to overcome the threat of Curtly Ambrose and Courtney Walsh on a difficult last day pitch. Their potential problems materialised within the first 40 minutes with the wickets of Gary Kirsten, caught by the keeper off Ambrose, and Adam Bacher, taken off an inside edge off Walsh.

Ambrose and Walsh had been the destroyers in Barbados and, nearly seven years on and with no signs of declining effectiveness, they applied such early pressure that Walsh conceded a mere eight runs from his opening spell of six overs, Ambrose 14 from his 10.

Once they were rested, Jacques Kallis, technically correct and temperamentally cool, held the effort together for three hours and 50 minutes to be unbeaten on 57 when victory was achieved, his second halfcentury of a low-scoring match.

Kallis shared successive match-winning partnerships of 44 with Daryll Cullinan and 66 with his captain Hansie Cronje, both of whom provided the necessary impetus to the effort.

"In Bridgetown, we were new to Test cricket and we made mistakes," Cronje, along with the fast bowler Allan Donald the sole survivor of that experience, said afterwards. "We weren't positive enough on that in Johannesburg

West Indies 261 and 170 South Africa 268 and 164-6 S Africa win by four wkts

final day. Now, 50 Tests or so down the line, we're used to it." Coming in at 14 for 2, Cullinan seized on every scoring opportunity and rode whatever

luck was going to score 35 off

64 balls before Stuart Williams

miraculously plucked his fierce

pull off Nixon McLean out of the air at midwicket. It was then 58 for 3 and it needed the positive influence of Cronje to counteract the runchoking field-placing of his rival captain, Brian Lara. Caught at silly mid-on off an Ambrose no-ball at 96 for 3, when 17, he eventually fell to a top-edged

hook to fine-leg off Walsh for 31. By then, while a famous victory was only 40 runs away, the storm clouds that had broken around tea on each of the previous two days were banking up and Cronje set his team a 4pm deadline to complete the job.

As it was, the rain did not materialise and, even though Walsh had Jonty Rhodes caught behind and Ambrose's full toss was flicked by Shaun Pollock hard but straight to square-leg with the scores level. Kallis remained steadfast until Mark Boucher cut Ambrose square to win the match.

Fifth day; West Indies won toss
WEST INDIES - First Innings 261 (S
Chanderpaul 74)
SOUTH AFRICA - First Innings 268 (G
Kirsten 62, C A Walsh 4-66) WEST INDIES - Second limings 170 (5 M Police) 4-49) SOUTH AFRICA - Second limings

G Kirsten e Jacobs b Ambrose.. A M Bacher e Wallace b Walsh

Umpires: C.I Matchiev and D.R. Shephero Second test: Port Elizabeth, 10-14 Dec

Aamir declares his displeasure

AAMIR SOHAIL, Pakistan's BY BRIAN MCKENNA dejected captain, yesterday in Peshawar turned on the selectors after his side's demoralising sevenwicket defeat by Zimbabwe in

the first Test at Peshawar. Pakistan lost their first home series against Australia for 39 years last month, and Aamir re- first Test victory overseas and sponded to the latest setback by their third win in 32 Tests by admitting: "It's very demoralising that we have failed against Zimbabwe. The team is really very disappointed."

Questioned on his own future as captain, he said: "It's up to the board, and I am considering my options. We have lost one match, and I will think about it.

"The whole problem is of selection, and we have failed to form a combination. We had a green-top wicket and had two spinners in the squad. We had no options, no variety," he said.

Aamir denied some senior players are not co-operating with him, saying: "This is not correct, because if they do badly their head is also on the chopping block. I am helpless at the moment and play with whatever I am given. I will not back down from responsibility, but now they will have to listen to me," he said of the selection

Pakistan 296 and 103 Zimbabwe 238 and 162-3 Zimbabwe win by seven wkts

Zimbabwe recorded their making 162 for 3 in the second innings, triumphing with a day and two full sessions to spare. Murray Goodwin scored a

patient, unbeaten 73 to see Zimbabwe home after Pakistan had collapsed to 103 all out in their second innings. The second Test in the three-match series begins in

Lahore on 10 December. Fourth day: Zimbabwe won toss PARISTAN – First lanlage 296 (laz Ahmad 87, Yousu Youhana 75, H H Streak 4-93, M Mbangwa 3-40). ZIMBABME - First leadings 238 (N C Johson 107, Wasim Akram 5-52, Waqar Youns

Bourling: Washin Akram 17-6-47-3. Waqar Younis 11-1-51-0: Aaqib Javed 13 2-4-36-0: Azhar Mahmood 3-1-3-0: Mushtaq Ahmed 4-2-13-0.

Bright future as men and women join forces

BARBARA DANIELS, the man- the challenge now, according to a meeting yesterday to an- them to play in. nounce closer cooperation between the men's and women's to lay the foundations for degames. She said that women's velopment in every county. Decricket can now draw on the velopment Officers will be huge resources of the English Cricket Board and two committees have already been particularly secondary schools. formed to administer the game There will be more leagues for both sexes.

make sure women's cricket is men's clubs to form women's ready to reap the benefits of the and girls' teams. ECB's first full integrated development plan in 2000," Daniels said.

Paul Farbrace, the former

ager to the English women's Daniels, is to increase particteam, predicted a bright fu- ipation by women and girls and ture for cricket's distaff side at create more teams and clubs for

From now on, the idea will be encouraged to introduce cricket to more girls in primary and and coaching courses, while "This is foundation year to help will be given to existing

"There are not enough girls playing cricket." Daniels said. We are competing with other sports, all of which want the Kent and Middlesex wicket- same children. We have to keeper, has been appointed demonstrate that women's

SOUTHWELL

11.40 imperial Prince 12.10 Oriel Girl 12.40 Far Cry 1.15 Flying Officer 1.45 Zechariah 2.15 Theatre Magic 2.45 Bold Aristocrat 15 Dancing Alone

GOING: Standard. STALLS: 5f - outside; remainder - inside. GOING: Standard. STALLS: 5f - outside; remainder - inside.
DRAW ADVANTAGE: High best 5f; low best 6f to fm.

If Fibresend surface; left-hand sharp, onal course.

If Course is 3m SE of fown and 5m W of Newark. Rolleston Junction rail station adjoins course. ADMISSION: Caub 12; Fattersalls £6 (OAF members of courses Diamond Club 54, accompanied under-tiss free). CAR PARK: Free.

If LEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 48-236 (20.3%), S Bowring 48-397 (12.1%), J L Eyre 42-294 (14.5%), R Hollinsheed 38-298 (18.9%).

38-428 (89%).
ELEADING JOCKEYS: J Weaver 47-283 (168%), J Guinn 37-531 (7%), L Charmock 35-394 (89%), G Duffield 34-249 (13.7%),
E FAYOURITES: 563-1671 (349%).
LONG DISTANCE TRAVELLER: Folly Foot Fred (1140) sent 242

mäes. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Lapu-Lapu (1140). Taz Mania (115). Chili Bouchier (visored, 1140).

ARCTIC CIRCLE HANDICAP (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,000 added 1m 3f

	_	- 46	JOHNSHE THE JOKER (8)(C) J LEIGH 7 10 0
1	7		JOHNSHE THE JOKER (B)(C) J Leigh 7 10 0
Į	Ź	000-10	MISTY RAIN (J33) (C) (BF) J Spearing 4 9 71T Sprate
İ	l 3	535602	IMPERIAL PRINCE (8) 5 Woods 3 9 10G Center 1
ļ	1	403952	PROSPECTOR'S COVE (10) (BF) J Pearce 5 9 8 R Price 1
ı	5	010063	REPTON (35) Mrs A Swinbank 3 9 4 G Duffield 1
i	6	030-00	LAPULAPU (47) Miss J A Camacho 593 A Culture 7
ı	7	060-00	LOVE VENTURE (71) Mass M Rowland 491 Familian 1
ļ	ε	43560C	DRY LIGHTNENG (17) M Bel 3 8 12
ļ	9	0.0000	PETER PERFECT (8) Mrs S Lamyman 48 10 C Teague (3) 4
ļ	Ð	5020-0	SANDMOOR DENM (8) (C) S Bowng 11 89 G Strange
Į	11	D-00001	SALBUS (63) (CD) G L Moore 8 8 8 Cardy Morris
ľ	12	DE:0002	DOUBLE ECHO (11) (CD) J Sestel 1085
ŀ	3	0.0040	CHILL BOUCHER (USA) (5) D Maris 485 D Sweeney 2
ŀ	14	605020	CABCHARGE BLUE (57) (C) TJ Naughton 6 8 4 F Norton
į	5	0003-0	FOLLY FOOT FRIED (40) A Newcombe 4 8 3
i	16	602540	- 15 declared -
ı	ı		- 10 (MSMA) -

BETTING: 4-1 Imperial Prince, Prospector's Cove, 7-1 Johann Misty Rain, Repton, Saibus, 10-1 Double Echo, 14-1 others FORM VERDICT

Quite an open race, PROSPECTOR'S COVE is in form and should go well in this signity easer grade after a good run last time, pro-voted he stays this signity longer trip.

2.10 LADBROKE AW CHALLENGE HAND-ICAP (E) (DIV I) £3,750 added 6f

3	230621	ELTON LEDGER (11) (CD) Mrs N Macadey 9 9 8 R Price 2 V
4	653002	MAITEAMIA (18) (CO) S BOWING 5 9 8 C Teague (3) 8 5
5	061660	GENERAL KLAIRE (73) (D) & McMahon 397 V Hataday 6
6	451501	MOET (8) (CD) J L Syre 3 9 3 (7ex)
7	06008	THANYER (17) K Bel 391 T Sorake 9
8	020500	KOSEVO (11) (C) D Shaw 4 8 8 R Winston (3) 10 V
9	000540	NEWLANDS CORNER (26) (CD) (BF) J Aketurst 5 8 5
TD	045000	CLOHAMON (11) S Kettlewell 3.85
Ħ	001400	OREL GIRL (11) M Ryan 3 8 2 G Bardwell 11
2	603003	ANOTHER NIGHTMARE (6) (D) D Sarker 6 7 12
		James Breaks Chin

3 654231 PRESENT'N CORRECT (8) JM Bracky 5 7 10 (7eu)F Norton 5 - 13 declared - 13 declared - 15 declared - 17 declared - 17 declared - 18 declared - 19 dec

FORM VERDICT Moet, an impressive winner against modest opposition over C&D last week, should go well under a penalty but she will not be much of a price and preference is for the speech MAITEAMIA who shaped

well over 71 at this course lest time and will find the drop to \$2 ideal 12.40 TROPIC OF CAPRICORN AMA-TEURS' CLASSIFIED STAKES (G) £2,500 added 1m 6f

FORM VERDICT FAR CRIY was a revelation when whrang easily here last time and though this is harder, this unexposed 3yo books very much the one to beet. He ought to stay this 2f longer tro and can see off ill Principe. who has been running well and is the main danger.

1.15 TROPIC OF CANCER MAIDEN STAKES (D) £4,000 added 2YO 5f

MUDDY WATER D Marks 89 ______ D Sweeney 9

FORM VERDICT

Planty of flead wood here; only FLYING OFFICER, Adelphi Boy and possibly Lohan count. Though Adelphi Boy is the pick on form. Flying Officer's debut not was sufficiently promising for hopes to be care high that he can improve past him.

Г	1 /5] EQUATOR NURSERY HANDICAP
L	1.40] EQUATOR NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS E) £3,750 added 2YO 1m
1	4552:	SUNSET LADY (49) (D) P Hastern 97
2	323435	HEATHYARDS JAKE (18) it Hotersheed 9 P M Quiten (7) 13
3	3:300	GOLD HONOR (FR) (14) (D) B Meetran 9 1 G Harmon (7) 16 B
4	.325	ZECHARIAH (10) (D) J L Eyre 89 C Lowther 2
5	03600	BELLA LOUPA (40) ? Harrico 89
6	23	WOOLLY WINSOME (14) B Smart B 9
7	06E0E	BRIDGEND BLUE (15) M Bel 8 8
8	06833	\$LIMS LADY (26) K Burke 6 7
9	00300	FAMILY TREE (18) (D) D Chapman 6 7
10	5532	LOVE DIAMONDS (18) M Johnston B 4
Ti	621	LIGHT ON THE WAVES (10) (D) M Ppe 83F Notion 15
Έ		ENCOUNTER (11) J Hetherton 83
13		RIVER BOY (75) P Stakespeare 8 1 P Fessey 4
14	003334	ALANA'S CAVALIER (15) R Hotinshead 8 0 T Williams 6
15	400	WINDSHIFT (37) D Staw 7 13 R Winston (3) 14

FORM VERDICT A typically trappy nursery in which tew can be ruled out ZECHARIAH is not bady weighted on his best turl form and should go well ster a clear-out win at Wolverhampton, even allowing for that race being a weak seller.

	2.15	LADBROKE AW CHALLENGE HANDI- CAP (E) (DIV II) £3,750 added 61
1	040000	BILLE XITE (4) N Lettmoden 3 10 0 T G NicLaughlin 11
2	J30J01	OCKER (25) (D) Mrs N Macauley 4 9 ft
3		JULIES JEWEL (24) (CD) M Chapman 3 9 8 G Duffield 9
4	0630	LA PETITE FLAMECHE (68) R O'Sullivan 3 9 8 P Doe (5) 4
5	306430	ANTARCTIC STORM (65) R Fahey 5 9 6 R Winston (3) 3
6	200473	INDIAN BLAZE (7) (D) D Elsworth 492
7	1332	THEATRE MAGIC (11) (C) D Straw 5 9 0
8	201000	KOMASEPH (11) (CD) ? Market 5.89
9	00303-	TANCRED TIMES (11) (D) D Barler 3 8 5T Williams 8
10		STATELY FAVOUR (18) (C) Mess J A Camacho 3 8 2
-		P Brackey (7) 1
T	005010	BATALEUR (18) (D) G Woodward 5 8 2
2		SOUND THE TRUMPET (244) R Spicer 67 12 P Fessey 10
13		MAKAHU DON (11) S BOWING 37 11F Norton 6 B

BETTING: 7-2 Theatrs Magic, 11-2 Octoe, 13-2 Indian Blaza, 8-1 Antaro-tic Storm, Komaseph, Tancred Times, 10-1 Blaz Kile, Julies Jewel, State-by Favour, 14-1 others

RACING RESULTS

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Oriel Girl (Southwell 12.10) NB: Baroncelli (Newton Abbot 2.35)

FOLKESTONE Going: Chase course - Good to Soft; hurdles course - Soft

1.35: 1. MOONSHINE BAY (P Hide) 8-4 fev; 2. Flying Footsie 14-1: 3. Melton Made 3-1.7 ran, 21/2, 20. (J Gifford). Total: 5320; 5160, 5510, DF: 52950. CSF: 52687.

3-1 fav; 2. Muldova 10-1; 3. The Lady Scores 20-1 10 ren. /r. 9. (John R Upson) Tote: 6480; 6170, 63-20, 6470. DF; 625-90. CSF; 633-31 Tricast: 6495-43.

WORCESTER Going: Heavy

1-2 fav; 2. Ripertus 9-1; 3. Meiling 25-1 7 ran. 12. 21 (H Daly, Ludiow). Tota; £140; £150, £170. DF: £390. CSF: £467.

3.45: 1. MATT HOLLAND (Mr it Forristal)

coach to England's women, and cricket is worth pursuing."

.... Scotpsh Eagles.

983 STRIVELL 573 VITCOURE BEATLE 0891 261 970 الكالمساكان ويحماها، كأنا الأمرانحية والالمساكرة

RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + LIVECO MMENTARIES_RESULTS 97 t 981 HEVICASTLE

KELSO

Gong. Heavy 12.55: (2m 110yds. novice hurdle) 1. CLASSICAL DANCE ___G Lee 1-2 tav

1. CLASSICAL DANCE GLES 17-1 2. Reverse Charge J Jardine 33-1 3. Lindejane Holley, 15-1 Sounds Devi-cus (4th), 50-1 Cobra Girl, Coscoroba (6th), Parjazz did not finish, Snooty Eski-mo (5th), Sid Friends did not finish.

THE INDEPENDENT

382 HENTON ASSOT 972

10 ran. Nik, shil-hd, 4, 14, 24. [Winner bay gelding by Crässic Music out of Eyre Square, trained by Mrs M Reveley at Self-burn for Mrs M I Jackson). Tota: £150; £100. 1260 1270 DF: \$490 CSF: \$405 1.25: (2m 6f 1fDyds novice chase)
1. BIRKDALE R Supple 8-11 fav
2. Single Sourcing S Taylor 50-1
3. Harden Gien Afr C Storey 50-1

3. Heartest Sang Pindled not finish, 15-2 More Rush (8th), 12-1 Ben Cruachen (4th), 100-1 Carriaven did not finish, Innovate did not finish, Super Guy did not finish, 150-1 Polit-

misn, super lary on not mean, 150-1 Poet-cal Mandate (Sth). 10 ran. 7. ½, dist. 2, 4. (L. Lungo, Cer-rutherstown). Tote: £150; £120, £240, £190. DF: £15.70, CSF: £3439. NR: Master

Aiso: 12-1 Tarajan (4th). 4 ram. 1, 214, dist. (Winner chestnut geld-ing by Over The River out of Shreelane, trained by J O'Nell at Pennith for J P McManue). Tote: 52.10 DF: 52.70. CSF:

2.25: (3m 1f handcap chase)
1. FEELS LIKE GOLD ___ B Harding 20-1
2. All The Aces ______ P Niven 7-2
3. Davy Blake ______ A S Smith 6-1 Also: 3-1 |t tav Freddie Muck (Sth), it fav Young Kenny (4th), 5-1 Chapped Out, 16-1 Coqui Lane (8th), 100-1 Cell The Shots 6id not finish, Scribbler did not finish.

8 mm. 1. 7. sht.-hd, 3"/s. dist. (Winner bay geiding by Cats out of Drom Lady, trained by N Richards at Greystoles for Independent Twine Manufactung Co Ltd.): Table 2550; 2330, 1380, 2190, DP: 24540 CSF; 28297. Tricast: £440.80. Tote Trifecta: £330.70. 1. PALACEGATE KING_Mr B Gibson 5-2
 2. Exeited ______ C McCormack 7-2
 3. Valedictory ______ L Wyer evens tav Also: 8-1 Good Day (4th)

Aren. 18. 5. dist. (Winner chestrut gelding by King Among Kings out of Market Blues, trained by A Whillens at Hawick for Chas N Whillens). Tota: £3.70. DF: £3.40. CSF: 3.25: (2m 6f 1fDyds marden hurdie)
1. TEELIN 8AY _______Mr A Parior 5-2
2. Dynamic Lord ____Mr N Wilson 4-6 fav
3. Distinct ______ Mr N Wilson 4-6 fav
Also: 6-1 The Gipfel (4th), 50-1 Pare Jacke
did not finish.

5 ran. 14. Gist, dist. (Winner bey gelating by Be My Nether out of Felry Quay, trained by C Parker at Lockerber for Mr & Mrs Ray-mond Anderson Green), Tota: £3.30; £4.40, £100, DF: £2.20, CSF: £4.52. Placepot: 983.90. Quadpot: 983.30.

1.05: 1. KINGSMARK (J Tizzard) 4-6 tav; 2. Chicago City 7-2; 3. Jim Jam Joey 6-1 8 ran. '5, hd. (O Sharwood) Tota: £170; £100, £140, £160, DF: £260, CSF: £3.24 2.35; 1. IMAD (M Brennan) 10-1; 2. Ainsi Solt 8 4-1; 2. Sorbiere 9-1, 12 ran, 3-1 fav Come On Eisen, Nk, 3½, (K Comericad), Tota; CR170; 52-20, 51:70, 53:30, DF; 52:400, CSF; £51:10, Tricast; £36:178, NR; Daring

3.05: 1. RIGHTSAIDFRED (Mr P Bul) 5-2 tav; 2. Church Law 3-1; 3. Lay it Off 4-1 6 ran. 1/-, 15. (Mas A Newton-Smith). Tota: 53:30; 51:80, 51:30. DF: 64:00. CSF; 510:48. 3.35: 1. ROBORETTE (S Durack) 2-1 jt fev; 2. Macow-Bay 2-1 jt fev; 3. Mitzi Trilstie 8-1. 10 ran, 3, 2'/L, (J Neville). Tota: £3.70; £100, £100, £460, DF: £3.60, CSF; £5.88. Jackpot: £639630 Placepot: £4730. Quadpot: £22; Place 8: £4260. Place 5: £3896.

12.45: 1. MUSICAL SLING (FI Durwoody) 12.46; 1. MUSICAL SLING (H LUMWOOD); 4-1; 2. Dirty Dozen 7-2 tar, 3. Lucky Ross 4-1, 11 ren. 6, 1½. (P Hobbs, Minehead); Tote: \$4.90; \$1.30, \$1.50, \$1.70. DF; \$7.60. CSF; \$18.11. NR; Super Nova. 1.15: 1, PLAY (GAMES (H. JOHNSON) 900-30; 2. High Mood 13-2; 3. High Learle 10-1, 10-11 fav Gratomi (unssated rider), 5 ran. 14. dist. (R Lee, Presteigne), Tote: £3.70; £160, £310, DF: £8.20, CSF: £2168. 1.45: 1. TIME FOR A GLASS (W Marston) 7-1; 2. Silk Vestments 10-11 fav; 3. Elllewelliewoo 15-2 6 ran. 5, 10 (M Wikinson, Banbury). Tote: £580; £200, £180. DF; £380. ČSF; £1243. 2.15: 1. MARLBOROUGH (R Dunwoody)

1.15; 1. PLAY GAMES (R Johnson) 100-30;

2.45; 1. NELTEGRITY (W Marston) 9-4; 2. 240: 1. hell barth 1 (masson) 94,2 Handy Less 5-1; 3. Aegean Fanfare 50-1 6 ran. 30-11 fav Naver in Debt (pulled up). 11/4, 12 (Mrs P Sly, Peterborough). Tote: 22:20; Tun, 22:60. DF: E3:10. CSF: £12:67. NR: Cep it if You Carr. 3.15: 1. HOODWINKER (T Jenks) 11-2; 2. Grosvenor 11-10 fay; 3. Bold Statement 3-1, 4 ran., 20, dist. (W Jenks, Bridgnorth). Tote: £590. DF: £6.30. CSF: £11.27.

3.45; 1. MAT HOLLAND (MY HOTTERA) 25-1; 2. Forest Thyne 2-1 far; 3. Derra Glen 4-1, 11 ren. 23, 8. (Mrs. L. Wacham, Newmarket) Tota: £3010; £270, £110, £170. DF: £4400 CSF: £6971 Piacepot: £10200. Quadrat: £3580 Place 6: £13499. Place 5: £9800.

The spent force of Goodison

spending of nearly £70m on transfers in just four years it is hard, at first sight, to underrejoiced yesterday at the ending of Peter Johnson's reign as chairman. Even taking last week's £8m sale of Duncan Ferguson into account, the managers and playing recruits club have a £30m transfer deficit under Johnson with a quartet of managers lavishing fees on the likes of Ferguson. Daniel Amokachi, Andrei Kanchelskis, Gary Speed, Nick Barmby, Slaven Bilic and John

However, that only Collins, (and Bilic when he is neither suspended nor injured), remain in the team illustrates one gripe. That such players as Marc Hottiger, Claus Thomsen. Mitch Ward, John O'Kane and Alex Cleland have also been foisted upon the School of Science is another.

The biggest complaint however, is that Johnson had no affinity with the supporters or club, a charge based on his former allegiance to Liverpool, compounded by his ham-fisted attempt to move the club from

Peter Johnson yesterday succumbed to the vitriol of the Everton support and resigned as chairman of a club on whom he lavished £70m but bought only failure. By Glenn Moore

stand why Everton supporters by his sale of the cult hero, Fer-

That he reduced the club to a laughing-stock as a series of wild claims about prospective ended in failure did not help, nor did his aloof and arrogant

The belief was that Johnson was in it for the money and, at one time, he looked like making plenty of it. A rights issue of shares, soon after he took

UNDER MIKE WALKER

(7 Jan 1994 to 8 Nov 1994) Bays: £8.9m

Parkison (Bournemoun) 3:10,100; "Cary Powett (Cimbridge) £200,000; "Anders Limpar (Arsenal) £1.6m; "David Burrows (West Ham) est £1.1m (Swap with Tony Cottee): Daniel Arrolachi (Dub Bruges) £3m; Vinny Samways (Fottenham) £2.2m
"Peter Beagne (Manchester City) £1.1m, Tony Cottee (West Ham) est £1m (swap with David Burrows): "Mark Ward (Birmingham) £400,000." Deals concluded before Johnson book control.

(10 Mov 1994 to 27 March 1997) Buys: £26,34m Duncan Ferguson (Rangers) £4m; Marc

over, left him sitting on a paper profit approaching £60m from a total investment of £20m.

The collapse in football shares. and Everton's own poor form. has seen the club's worth fall substantially and estimates of the value of his 68 per cent shareholding vary considerably. He could still make as much as £30m but may have to settle for less than a third of

That is still a handy sum

Hottiger (Newcastle) £700.000; Earl Barrett (Aston Villa) £1.7m; Craig Short (Derby) £2.4m; Andrei Kanchelskis
(Manchester Utd) £5m; John Hills (Blackpool) £90.000; Gary Speed (Leeds) £3.5m; Psul Gerrard (Oldham) £1.5m; Not
Barmby (Middlesbrough) £5.75m; Terry
Phelan (Chebsea) £800.000; Claus Thomsen (Ipawich) £900.000.
Sales: £15.08m

Brett Angell (Sunderland) £600.000.
Gary Rowett (Derby) £300.000; Sulart
Barlow (Oldham) £450.000; David Burrows (Coventry) £1.1m; Psul Holmes
(WPA) £80.000; Daniet Amokachi (Besktas) £1.75m; Barry Horne (Birmingham) £350.000; Matt Jackson (Norwich) £450.000; Matt Jackson (Norwich) £450.000; Anders Limpar (Birmingham) £100.000; Vinny Samways (Las Palmas) £600.000; Anders Limpar (Birmingham) £600.000; Ander Kanchelskis [Fiorentina] £8m; John Ebbrell (Sheffield Utd) £1m.

from the perspective of the Bullens Road Stand opposite the Goodison Park directors' box, but the divergence is likely to hamper Everton's plans to move on as Johnson will wait to achieve what he regards as a good price. Though no longer chairman, he will remain a significant presence as long as he combines a seat on the board with the majority share-

holding. That the new vice-

chairman, Bill Kenwright, who

EVERTON'S TRANSFER DEALINGS IN THE JOHNSON ERA

BETWEEN MANAGERS

UNDER HOWARD KENDALL

UNDER HOWARD KENDALL (27 June 1997 to 25 June 1998)
Buys: £11.25m
John Oster (Grinsby) £1.5m; Gareth Farrelly (Ast Cortinsby) £1.5m; Gareth Farrelly (Ast Cort Mila) £700.000 rising to £90.000 rising to £90.000. Danny Williamson (West Ham) est £8m (swap with David Unsworth): Thomas Myhre (Midng Stavanger) £800.000; John O'Rane (Manchester Utd) £250.000 rising to £500.000; Mitch Ward (Sheffield Utd) est £850.000 (swap with Graham Stuart): Carl

was the loser in the acrimonious takeover battle which brought Johnson to the club, is the man behind a possible buyout is unlikely to help the atmosphere even if Johnson spends far more time in Jersey than on Merseyside.

Given the cost of buying Johnson out the new owners, whoever they may be, are unlikely to have much money left to invest in new players. Smith will thus have to make do with

sen (na copennagen) ESOO,000; ESP Bar-rett (Sheffield Wednesday) free; Gary Speed (Newassie) £6m; John Hills (Blackpool) £60,000; Jon O'Connor (Sheffield Utd) est £250,000 (swap with

ready spent \$20m since taking over in the summer, and inherited one of the best youth systems in the country, that should be within his capability. The departure of Ferguson should make it easier for him to create a decent side as the team had become one-dimensional with the big Scot leading

After several years of fighting relegation it will take time

Tiler (Sheffield Utd) £500,000; Mickael Madar (Deportivo La Coruta) free: Don Hutchison (Sheffield Utd) est £1.25m (swap with Jon O'Connor); Matt McKay (Chester) £500,000 rising to £750,000. Peter Beaghe (Bradford Gity) Joan; John Spencer (QPR) £1.5m.

Sales: £13.7en
David Unsworth (West Ham) est £1m (swap with Danny Williamson): Graham Stuart (Sheffield Utd) est £850,00 (swap with Mitch Ward): Andy Hinchellife (Sheffield Wednesday) £3m; Claus Thomsen (AB Copenhagen) £500,000: Earl Barrett (Sheffield Wednesday) free: Gary Speed (Newsaste) £6m; John Hills Park (Sheffield Wednesday) £500,000: Connection (Newsaste) BETWEEN MANAGERS

UNDER WALTER SMITH (appointed 1 July 1998)

Burys: £19.4m

Olivier Dacourt (Strasbourg) £4m: John
Collins (Monaco) £2.5m: Marco Materazzi (Preugla) £2.5m: David Unsworth (Aston Villa) £3m: Steve Simonsen
(Tranmere) £3.3m: Ibrahima Sakayoko
(Monxpether) £4.5m.

Sales: £9.2m

Carl Tiler (Charitten) £700,000; Duncan
Ferguson (Newcastle) £8m; Gavin McCann
(Sunderland) £500,000.

to fashion a title-chasing team but Everton's supporters ex-pect no less. The club's plummet from two league championships and five cup fi-nals in the mid-eighties to the drudgery of the nineties has been a bitter blow and Goodison has become a strange place to visit. The supporters, still turning up in greater numbers than all but Manchester United, Liverpool and Arsenal, have often had a note of desperation in their cheers and the extraordinary scenes after the final match of last season, when joy at their escape from relegation turned quickly to sustained abuse of wait until they finally appoint

their anger. Behind those jeers was a well-organized campaign involving independent shareholders, the use of the Internet and a professional assessment of the proposed stadium move. As several other chairmen have bowed before a similar combination of vocal abuse and organized dissent, notably Peter Swales and Francis Lee at Manchester City and Bill Archer at Brighton, this would appear to suggest supporters,

aided by the overwhelming media interest in the game, have more of a voice than ever

However they are still dependent on a chairman giving in and stronger characters. tike Alan Sugar, can dig in and Johnson, spoke volumes for a successful manager and the pressure abates. Others, like Michael Knighton and Ron Noades, take the helm them-

It may be, as Mike Walker, the first manager sacked by Johnson said yesterday, a change for the chairman to be the one to resign, but in the long run, it is likely to be no more than a blip in the gradual erosion of managerial control which has characterized the game since the days of the Busbys. Shanklys and Cloughs.

Hudson a walking miracle

A life-threatening accident has failed to temper a former Chelsea idol's outspokenness. By Andrew Warshaw

SIXTEEN DAYS ago, on a bitterly cold Sunday afternoon in north London, Alan Hudson, unrecognised by most people in the ground, walked on crutches to a specially reserved seat in the unprepossessing main stand at Hendon.

Tonight, when the Rymans Premier League team try to knock Second Division Notts County out of the FA Cup at the second attempt, the presence of the former England midfielder who has become Henspiritual rather than physical. and win everything."

A year after a terrible road skills and flamboyant person-Chelsea side of the 1970s, is back watching football, but only when his health allows.

Hudson's allegiance to Hendon goes back to this time last year when, shortly before his friend to watch them play Leyton Orient at the same stage of the Cup. Hudson saw the non-League team draw the home game, then travelled to the replay and cheered Hendon to an upset win.

Club chairman Ivor Arbiter was so grateful for Hudson's divine intervention that he invited him back this year for what, uncannily, could prove to be a repeat performance. Hendon drew the first game 0-0 but no one involved at the club believes the tie is over, although Hudson has his doubts.

"I would be there with them away," said Hudson, who only came out of hospital five weeks ago and still has to undergo several gruelling hours of physiotherapy every day. "I'll be trawling radio and television for their progress. They're an honest bunch of players but I have are pretty ordinary."

to say I think the task may be too much."

Despite 10 months of hospital treatment, the first two spent in a coma, Hudson has lost none of his outspokenness which, he admits, has not endeared him to much of football's hierarchy. He says, for instance, that he would never go back to Chelsea. "Ken Bates is not one of my favourite people and I think the feeling is mutual," he said. "If Matthew Harding was still in charge, I would have don's lucky mascot will be liked to see Chelsea clean up Born a stone's throw from

accident almost killed him, Stamford Bridge, Hudson Hudson, whose ball-playing made 144 League appearances in six years for the Blues before ality epitomised the fashionable joining Stoke in 1974. In a colourful career, he also had a two-year spell with Arsenal and played for five seasons in the United States before returning to England for further brief stints with both Chelsea accident, he was invited by a and Stoke. He only won two caps but Chelsea fans, past and present, still idolise him.

Conversely, Hudson is unimpressed with the current generation of Chelsea supporters "hardly any of them are from the area like they were in my day") but has nothing but praise for Gianluca Vialli's championship-contending for-"I can't understand why peo-

ple criticise them. Ten years ago, our game was on its knees. The only reason Chelsea are selling out every week is because of the foreigners. It's the same with the others. if it wasn't such a long way Arsenal won two trophies last season but apart from the influence early on of Ian Wright, their success was mainly down to Bergkamp and Overmars. Look at Spurs today: you'd pay to watch Ginola any time. The rest, with one or two exceptions,



Alan Hudson now needs crutches to help him walk, the painful legacy of a traffic accident 12 months ago that left him in an eight-week coma: Tve lost a year of my life and I want to make up for it' says the man who was a dazzling presence for Chelsea (below) in the 1970s

Robert Hullam

Hudson's slow rehabilitation from an accident that left him clinging to life inevitably means he has to pick and choose his games carefully. Since coming out of hospital, he has watched just two matches: Charlton against West Ham and Hendon

versus Notts County. Most of time, he stays at home in Bow, catching as many games as possible on television and radio, keeping himself informed "in case the call ever comes again to be involved in

the game" He thinks that unlikely, given his reputation for making as many enemies as friends and that he is still recovering from his horrific injuries. "I'm out of work at the moment but I'm not one of those who moan about it.

It's probably my own fault anyway for speaking out so often but I just can't stand fraud and dishonesty and there is a lot of both in football. For instance, I can't handle mediocre players earning a fortune and cheating the public."

Because there is still a court case pending for compensation. Hudson cannot say too much about what happened back on 15 December last year. Suffice to say, he had just

come out of his local tube station following a sports writers' function in London when he was struck by a passing car.

In all, he needed nine operations. Hospital staff, he discovered when he eventually woke from an eight-week coma, had virtually written him off.

BELGIUM AND

NETHERLANDS

ENGLAND, IF they qualify, or

"They as good as said I was a dead man. Apparently, I even had a clot on the brain.

His new goals, as he approaches the first anniversary of a day that changed his life, are numerous. To get back to writing the used to have a column with the now defunct Sporting Life), to spend more time with his wife Anne and their three children and, crucially, to walk without crutches.

"They told me it would be three years before I could walk unaided. That makes two years from now but I'm determined to get there before that. I've lost a year of my life, remember, and I want to make up for it. I feel very good about



Kidd top of Rovers' targets as manager

BY ALAN NIXON

BLACKBURN ROVERS have put Brian Kidd at the top of their managerial wanted list - but. face a battle to drag him away from Manchester United.

Rovers' owner, Jack Walker. is ready to offer Kidd £750,000 a year to tempt him to leave his post as Alex Ferguson's assistant. An official approach to United is expected this week.

Internazionale have sacked their coach Gigi Simoni, who is likely to be replaced by the Romanian Mircea Lucescu, coach at Rapid Bucharest. Simoni had been under pressure following Inter's erratic start to the season which had seen them. slip to seventh place in Serie 🕰 following defeats by Lazio. Juventus, Bari and Fiorentina.

The 18-year-old Lyons midfielder Steed Malbranque has turned down a £2m move to Arsenal, saying he wants to stay in France. Better news for the club was Tony Adams' announcement yesterday that he will not, after all, need back surgery. He hopes to resume light training in January.

Robbie Fowler will stick by his £50,000-a-week pay demand. Talks between the Liverpool striker and his club have reopened, and the Liverpool manager, Gérard Houllier, met Fowler's adviser yesterday.

Portsmouth have asked the Professional Footballers' Association to help them pay their players' wages for last month. The financially troubled club were given a loan of around £150,000 by the PFA to meet the monthly wage bill as debts begin to mount at Fratton Park. Pompey have been left short of money after chairman Martin Gregory was ordered by the High Court to pay an outstanding bill owed to the builders of

their 4.500-seater KJC Stand. The 2002 World Cup finals could be brought forward to May and June to avoid the midsummer rainy season in Japan and South Korea, the Fifa president, Sepp Blatter, said yesterday. Football's world governing body is worried that the traditional June-July timing for the finals coincides with north-east Asia's wet season.

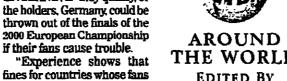


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"Experience shows that fines for countries whose fans misbehave barely have any impact," Bram Peper, the Dutch interior minister, said last week. "Exclusion of the country involved is a measure

Peper was speaking after meeting his Belgian counterpart, Luc van den Bossche, in the Belgian town of Leuven to discuss security arrangements for the finals, which are to be co-hosted by the

we should dare to think of."



THE WORLD EDITED BY RUPERT METCALF

Netherlands and Belgium. Among the decisions taken was a sale restriction of two tickets per fan per game.

We want to make sure that there will be no olack market." Van den Bossche said. Organisers had been hoping to sell up to four tickets per person per game. Tour operators will be excluded from the ticket share out. "Very consciously so, because that was the beginning of the end at the World Cup in France," Van den Bossche added.

Hooligans could prompt Euro ejection

NIGERIA

THE CHARLTON Athletic defender Emeka Ifejiagwa, who has been on loan at Brighton this season, has been called up by Nigeria for two friendlies against club sides in Egypt and Spain later this month.

Nigeria's new Dutch coach, Thijs Libregts, has overlooked some expatriates like the former Everton striker, Daniel Amokachi, in order to give some new faces a chance on the tour. Chelsea's Celestine Babayaro has also been picked. JAPAN

REAL MADRID have hardly had an ideal preparation for today's World Club Championship against Brazil's Vasco da Gama in Tokyo. Beset by criticism back

home, where they occupy an unusually low eighth position in the Primera Division, things got worse when they arrived in Japan. The Dutch midfielder, Clarence Scedorf and the Spanish international defender Ivan Campo had a training-ground fight on Sunday. The pair were parted by their team-mates.

"If players are to win, they need to have a strong personality and character. Sometimes these things happen," Lorenzo Sanz, Real's president, said. police ordered him off.

Real's opposition have plenly of colourful characters in their ranks, too. Vasco da Gama's coach, Antonio Lopes, abandoned a career as a police detective to take up full-time coaching in the 1970s. Since taking over at Vasco two years ago, he has had two 40-day touchline bans owing to excessive displays of his fiery temperament.

Vasco's vice-president, Eurico Miranda, is the club's main backer. He won election to the Brazilian Congress by appealing exclusively to Vasco fans to vote for him. He is notorious for running on to pitches to protest against refereeing decisions - and on one occasion tried to claim parliamentary immunity when

best to useful types in his two attempts over hurdles. He travelled

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Bright lights for Woodward amid Twickenham's gloom

ing the superiority of the southern hemisphere countries. They have in England's most successful always been superior. Or, to be accurate. South Africa and New Zealand have always been so. Australia have accelerated in the last few years - though, judging by their performance on Saturday, I would not credit their semi-official status as second-best team in the world. I should put them behind South Africa, New Zealand and France as

Of the four home nations, England have easily the best record against the southern hemisphere elite since 1945. They have beaten not only Australia six times (a record all the other countries can match) but South Africa four times and New Zealand three times.

the two stronger countries were won decade, in 1992 and 1994 against reappearance south Africa, and in 1993 against their isolation. New Zealand. Despite their victory in 1953, Wales by contrast, were disappointing in their own glorious decade, losing to New Zealand in 1972 and 1978, in the latter game by one disputed point.

The British Lions won a series

against Australia in 1950, 1959 1966 and 1989, against South Africa in 1974 and 1997 (with a draw in 1955) and against New Zealand in 1971.

On historical precedents and current form alike, England have a more difficult task this Saturday than they had three days ago. Even so, their record against South Africa is better than that of any of the other

Three of the seven victories over home countries, though one of their victories, in 1992, was gained over a team who were making their first reappearance in world rugby after

The current difficulties faced by Clive Woodward, the England coach, could have been more oppressive. As George Formby used to sing, things might have been a great deal

Matt Perry did almost everything to justify Woodward's faith in him. Je-

remy Guscott is still going strong. Matt Dawson had a good game, even if his irascible disposition may get him into trouble some day. Richard Cockerill is in a permanent state of irritation but remains

a reassuring presence, in an odd sort of way. No one would describe Dar-

ren Garforth as a mobile prop in the

ALAN WATKINS

same style as, say, Cliff Davies or Mike Coulman. But he nevertheless has the knack of turning up at the right place at the right time, as he does frequently for Leicester and as he did in helping to make Guscott's try. The experiment of turning Tim

-was, as far as I could judge, a com-

Not so the back row. True, the whereby the heroic John Eales won the match was harsh, even excessive. Back should not be blamed. I should also prefer him over Richard Hill. As someone once said: to govern is to choose. This is what Woodward is reluctant to do.

His predecessor, Jack Rowell, picked a back row of three No 8s resembling a trio of camels, with Ben Clarke at No 7. Woodward picks a back row of three No 7s, for Lawrence Dallaglio is more than fast enough for the position and has, in-

Henry, the Weish coach, has done on other occasions. He is also at with the Llanelli No 8, Chris Wyatt home at Nos 6 and 8. But what does not work is for him to do a quickchange act with Hill, Dallaglio an attacking No 8 but a defending penalty awarded against Neil Back No 6. I do not know what it does to the enemy, but it certainly confuses

> Tony Underwood has the highest strike rate of any current England wing, but did not seem completely at home at Twickenham. He was, moreover, out-paced by Joe Roff. Austin Healey is a lively character, a bit of a card - something of a walking provocation himself, too - but if Woodward has to put a club scrumhalfon the England wing, it does not say much for English wings. I leave his latest difficulty till last:

England's perennial problem posi-

Rodber into a lock - what Graham both in club matches for Wasps and tion before and after the reign of Rob Andrew-outside half. Mike Catt has been getting a lot of stick for missing that conversion. Everyone seems to have forgotten that Paul Grayson missed not two but three points from a comparatively simple penalty in the first quarter, before

he was injured. Grayson is rugby's Mr John Citizen, who will presumably be restored. Catt is now a rugby schizophrenic, moving in minutes from the sublime, as in some of his kicking, to the gorblimey, as in his perfectly judged pass to the touch judge. Many years ago, at school, I knew a wing who did precisely that. But he was short sighted and there were no contact lenses in those days. I should give Simon

Mallett expects Test of mettle

AS RECENTLY as last July, the Springboks were worried about ingland only to the extent of wondering how long an uncompetitive canter in Cape Town might keep them from lunch. Suddenly, the boot is on the other ribcage, so to speak; not only because the English will field something resembling a Test-quality side at Twickenham this weekend, but because this latest one-off international represents the most important South African rugby occasion since two blind-∼le flankers. François Pienaar and a promising debutant by the name of Mandela, made

together in 1995. sporting immortality, which is not a place you get to visit more than once in a lifetime. Victory over England will give them a record 18th straight win at Test level. a run stretching back to late August of last year and a 62-31 shellacking of Austlia in Pretoria. Since then, they have beaten every major rugby nation bar two both home and away and of the that the Boks have been made exceptions. France have been to sweat buckets for their sucsubdued in both Lyons and cesses over the past three

sweet World Cup music

RUGBY UNION

BY CHRIS HEWETT

shipped more than a century of points in the space of two hid-

ings in Edinburgh. "I'm very proud of the things we've achieved as a team," said Nick Mallett, not unreasonably, on arrival in London yesterday. "But while we're aware that this I find it hard to imagine any side putting together this many Test victories ever again - we will keep our focus by reminding ourselves that the bay to break records is to concentrate on end product. The only goal is to get through unbeaten, not just on Test days but in midweek as well. Quite honestly, a Grand quite enough to be thinking

about." Southern hemisphere rugby folk have not made a recent habit of dignifying the game in the British Isles with public outpourings of respect, but the fact Paris while the Scots have weeks drew some words of



short-term goals rather than the The Springbok centre Christian Stewart prepares to tackle England by feeling the strain in a London gym yesterday

praise from the visiting coach. "There has been an obvious

improvement in coaching stan-Slam of the home unions is dards in both Wales and Ireland and a similar improvement in wing. "Greenwood is a very have progressed to the same degree, it will be a hell of a hard game on Saturday."

Indeed it will, especially if Will Greenwood regains full fitness in time to take his causing real trouble in attack."

appointed place in midfield and David Rees finally gets the opportunity to add some bustling sparkle to the right terms of personnel in Scot- very good player," agreed Malland," pronounced Mallett. "If lett, who would no doubt prefer England, without doubt the the Leicester centre not to strongest of the home unions, rush his recovery from the minor groin strain that ruled him out of England's one-point defeat by Australia. "Pair him with Jeremy Guscott and you

have a combination capable of

South Africa have one fitness quandary of their own and it ering with a proper warm-up. surrounds James Dalton, the

Transvaal hooker. Dalton twanged a hamstring during some voluntary extra negotiate the final hurdle of a labour on a gymnasium treadmill in Ireland last week and lasted only 10 minutes of Saturday's proceedings at Lansdowne Road. "We'll make a decision on Wednesday," said Mallett, clearly exasperated that an experienced profes-sional player should hit the his knee ligaments recover

running machine without both-

If the coach is forced to call up Naka Drotske from the hench the Boks will have to marathon 14 and a half month course without two-thirds of the front row that pulverised England at Twickenham this time last year (Os du Randt, com-fortably the best loose-head prop in the game, has been told

to rest up for six months while

from the effects of propelling a 20-stone frame around at quite would have fallen down." ridiculous speeds). Such an eventuality will not deflect them

from their purpose. 'We've come a long way and. at times, we've done it through being bloody-minded rather than brilliant," Mallett said. "We've won games in which we haven't played well, especially on this trip, and that has hardened our resolve. If we can just win this one, we'll be happy to let history judge us."

Thorburn reassures Board on drug issue

PAUL THORBURN, head of the 1999 World Cup, has promised to heed the International Rugby Board's advice on drugtesting to rid next year's competition of cheats.

"The IRB is due to review procedures for drug testing early next year and Rugby World Cup will implement the procedures set down," Thorburn said. "Rugby World Cup is conducting quite an in-depth doping control programme during the qualifying tournaments and the competition itself.

"But it's not just a case of having more tests. It's having the procedures and facilities in place to make sure they're conducted in the proper manner.

Moseley rugby director John White has defended Northampton lock Jon Phillips over accusations that he deliberately elbowed referee Trevor Fisher in Friday's match between the two sides. The referee sent off Phillips after the two collided and Northampton are studying a video of the incident.

"I was well placed to see it and I have no doubt that it was an accident." White said. "Phillips charged back and humped into the referee but it's something that I've seen hapdeliberately hit the referee he

Would have fallen down."

TEAMS FOR UNIVERSITY MATCH (Iwick-cubana, 8 December): Cambridge R J W Morrow (Fughes Hall), A R Bldwell (Hughes Hall), M P Robinson (Hughes Hall), M C A Denney (St Edmand's), S J Lippiert (Corpus Christi): P D Moran (Hughes Hall), M P Reacocke (Hughes Hall), M I Foutd's (Sciency Suscer, capt), S K Rodgers (Homerton), C P Hart (Hughes Hall), A R Immes (Hughes Hall), O J Stak (St Edmund's), M W D Hamlett (St Catharine's), M M Budden (Hughes Hall); N J Beach (Morcester), N M Badding (University), M S D Statasian (Empleton), M C Hampharias (Farnerias), S J Barry (St Cross), A S Colline (Lancole), P B O'Casaner (St Edmund Hall), S J Barry (St Cross), A S Colline (Lancole), P B O'Casaner (St Edmund Hall), A Reacher (University), A J Roberts (New), A R Respect (Hagdslein), N Calliers (McCe), D J Kelaher (St Cross), Capt), M B I Challeader (St Anne's).

AMERICAN FOOTBALL

'ula Radcliffe, the two-time world ess-country runner-up, will lead Entain's challenge at the European Championships in Italy on 13 De-cember, Radcliffe was named in the five-strong senior women's team for the trip to Ferrara, near Venice, next month when she will bid to atone for the disappointing end to last summer. The Bedford runner - who summer. The Bedford runner – who will be 25 a few days after the event – russed out on 3 medal on the track at the European Championships following an illness which then

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forced her to withdraw from the Commonwealth Games, GREAT BRITAIN TEAM (European cross-country champlentships Ferrare, It, 13 December): Senior Men: D Samulster (Shaftesbury Barnet), M Cad-dy (Newquay & Parl K Cullan (Chelms-crot). C Sesphenson (Crdfr), G Stensart (Mizuno Track Club), G Tremans (Coven-(Mizuno Track Club), G Transans (Coven-try Godra), Seafor Wassan: L Ellett (Shaftesbury), H Mash (Cardiff), H Pac-thason (Preston), P Raddiffe [Bed-ford), A Wyesth (Pariside), Junior Mens S Hanghlan (Hounslow), C Lineaey (Preston), P Riley (Trafford), D Romen (Solihuli & Sroak Heath), C Thompson (Aldershor, Farnham & District), Issafor Women: R Caffel (Oxford City), C Colmer (Bedrey), L Melly (Barrow in Fu-ness), S Partridge (Glasgow University), S Thomas (Wallsend).

Paul Foster powered to a 7-5 7-4 7-3 win over his world junior coun-

BOWLS

SNOW REPORTS in association with WorldCover Direct

terpart Darren Burnett of Arbroath in the Scottish Indoor Singles Championship at Glasgow's Kelvin Hall yesterday. The World Indoor titleholder trailed 3-5 in the opening set but hit back for a 7-5 win and then recovered from 1-4 down in the second with a burst of two, one and three to lead by two sets. Foster dominated the third, coasting to a 7-3 win to wrap up the title. SCOTTISH BUDGOOR CHAMPTONESHIPS (Kalvin Hall, Glasgow) Semi-Bansier Proser (Invine) bt 1 Sneedon (String) 6-7-6-7-0. Diumex (Arbroath) bt 1 Campbel (Lararichire) 7-5-4-7-0. Plante Foster bt Burnett 7-5-7-9-7-3.

FOOTBALL North Korea's demand that its team should parade ahead of South Ko-rea at Sunday's Asian Games open-

SPORTING DIGEST

the march in accordance with the hal alphabet, so South Korea will come first," the organising com-mittee vice-chalman said yesterday. The controversy has arisen while North and South Korea are techni-

FA CARL SBERG WASE Second round: Corrector results Bioser 1 Thame 3 (ofter extra time).

P. CARL SBERG WASE Third-round draws: Highfield Rangers v Garforth or Prescot Cables; Stawley MW v Dunston Federation Brower; Bedängton Ferries v Mickleover Sports: St Helens or Morpeth v Eccleshit: Brandon v Goole: Warrington or Lough v Heanor: Mossley or Consett v St Andrews or Buston: Billingham Town v Citheroe or West Auckland; Seeham Red Sar v Mauchal Grik Worlington v Tow Law, Kidigs ove Athletic v Codby: East Thurrock v Harlbur, Royston v Sudbury Kown; Thame v Letchworth: Sudbury Wanderers v Brache Sparte; Bowers v Diss or Yadey; Barkingside or Tepree v Oldoury; Spaking v Northwood; Faltenham v Bedford Town; Chasecom v Wirodham; Ford Utd v Newmarker; Woodbridge v Clacton; Melkisham v Ash; Herne Bay v Banstead; Tounton v Dawlish; Deal v Tiverton: St Blatey v Brislington or Portfelever; Ranssgate v Benneston Heath Harlequin; Juffrigeton & New Milton v Hungerford; Chipstead v Tooning & Milcham; Wick v Sidey; Cobham v Burgeds Hill or Camberley (lies to be played Saturday 12 December).

Mark O'Meara, the Masters and British Open champion, won a record \$430,000 (£257,000) to beat Tom

North and South Korea are techni-cally at war and separated by a heav-ily militarised border.

ASIAN GARLES (Bangkok) Preliminary group: Group & Turkmeristan 2 Vietnam D. Group B. China 4 Lebanon 1. Group P. Ornan 6 Hong Kong 0. SCOTTISH PREMIERR (EAGUE: Pest-pondet Benorrows St Johnstone v Hears (along) Wednesday 9 December). LOAN: Erlan Linigitan (defender) Bury to Cambridge City. Dr MARTHOUS LEAGUE Mildland Divi-sion: Corrected results from Saturday: Blakenan 1 Stamford 4; Hincidey Utol 9 Newport AFC 0. Postposed: Evesham Utol 9 Shepshed Dynamo. PA CARL SERIRG WASE Second round: Corrected result: Bicester 1 Thame 3 (af-ter extra time).

British Open champion, won a record \$430,000 (£257,000) to beat Form Lehman, the defending champion, in the \$1 m Skins Game in California on Sunday. O'Meara finished with eight skins after the two-day event, while Lehman captured a total of seven and earned \$420,000.

NEER'S WORLD RANKENGS: 1 T Woods (US) 11.96pts ave; 2 M O'Meara (US) 10.36; 3 E DS (SA) 9.37; 6 C Montogomeric (GB) 9.14; 7 L Westwood (GB) 8.56; 8 N Price (Zm) 8.55; 9 V Singh (FF) 8.51; 10 P Micketon (US) 7.90; 11 F Couples (US) 7.60; 12 J Furnk (US) 7.36; 13 J Ozaid (Japan) 6.61; 14 J Parnewi (Swe) 6.44; 15 J Leonard (US) 6.25; 16 S Elington (Aus) 6.18; 17 G Norman (Aus) 5.79; 18 D Carles (GB) 5.72; 19 B Watts (US) 5.31; 20 S Hoch (US) 5.20. Selected Others: 23 J M Olazibal (Sp) 4.62; 29 B Langer (GB) 4.44; 37 J Woosnam (GB) 3.46; 61 N Faido (GB) 2.53; 66 A Colart (GB) 2.45; 86 S Iornance (GB) 1.95; 92 C Rocca (It) 1.65; 98 P Bailer (GB) 1.79; 105 P Harrington (Ire) 1.62; 108 R Claydon (GB) 1.56; 109 P Price (Wal) 1.56; 120 D Carter (GB) 1.42; 136 M James (GB) 1.11; 136 D GBlond (GB) 1.25; 143 P McGalley (Ire) 1.20; 136 D Howel (GB) 1.11; 163 R Russell (GB) 1.10; 166 P Mitchell (GB) 1.10; 178 S Webster (GB) 1.02; 183 J Spence (GB) 1.02.

ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL, HOCKEY LEAGUE: New York Rangers 5 Nashville 1; Detroit 4 San Jose 1; Carolina 3 Anahelm 1; Privladelphia 6 Vancouver 2; Buffalo 6 Tampa Bay 3; Chicago 3 Edmonton 2. Strebn's Lyder Resputs: Superleagues Scottish Eagles 4 Bracimell Bees 3; Carolin's Devils 6 Nottingham Panthers 1; Manchester Storm 5 London Knights 2; Sheffield Scetiers 5 Newcastle Riverkings 2.

MOTOR RACING MOTOR RACING
CHAMPION SPARK PLUG WORLD
DRIVER BANKURGS: 1 M Haldmen
(Fin) Formula One 1154pts: 2 A Zarardi
It) Champ Car 1112; 3 J Gordon (US)
NASCAR 1054; 4 M Schumacher (Ger) Formula One 1036; 5 M Martin (US) NASCAR
800; 6 D Couldrant (GS) Formula One 842;
7 U Alzen (Ger) 817; 8 E irvine (GB) Formula One 810; =9 R Zonta (BF) FA GT
773; K Ludwig (Ger) FIA GT 773. Ocher
GB: 20 D Franchitzi Champ Car 501.

RUGBY UNION

Charlie Stewart, a past President of the Scottish RFU and former Scot-land back-row forward, has died aged 63. Peter Richards and Lewis Moody, who toured the Southern Hemi-sphere with England over the sum-mer, have been named in the paskpul under 21 side to face South national under-21 side to face South national under-21 side to face South Africa at Twickenham. Richards, the London Irish scrum-half, and Moody, the Leicester flanker, will fea-ture in the curtain-raiser to Satur-day's senior Test between England and the Springboks. The England un-der-21 fine-up will also Include lain Balshaw, the exciting young Bath full-back, and the Sale flanker Alex Sanderson, brother of senior Inter-Sanderson, brother of senior inter-national Pat. Meanwhile, Northamp-ton scrum-half James Bramhall will ton scrum-init James Bramnai will captain an England Under-21 A side against the South African under-21's at Banbury tonight. The pack includes Pontypool forwards Richard Sweter and Alex Brown, both formerly of Bath, while Toki Adebawo brother of Bath and Enpland

bayo, prother of Bath and England wing Adedayo, is among the re-placements. ENGLAND UNIDER-21 TEAM (v South Africa Under 21's, Twickenham, 11.A5 Saturday): I Baishaw (Bath); L Bast

(Richmond), B Johnston (Saracens), M Tindall (Bath). S Hamley (Sale): J Princhard (Bristol), P Michards (London Irish); D Filaman (Saracens), S Walker (Northampson), J Dawsson (Saracens), S Borthudick (Bath), J Rule (West Hartispool). A Sanderson (Sale), L Moody (Leicester), A Baiding (Leicester), Replacements: J Shann (Sale), J Browns (London Irish), C Shuppson-Daniel (Wolerleid), M Ward (Newcastle), L Maars (Bath), K Roche (Saracens & Loughborough University), A Beattle (Exter & Exter & Exter of Externs of Loughborough University), A Beattle (Exter & Exter of Exter & Exter of External or
Southampton will host the start of the 2001-2002 Volvo Ocean Race. The round-the-world yacht race – formerly know as the Whitbread Round-the-World Race – will begin in September 2001 with a finish in May or June 2002. The announcement ends speculation that the race would move back to Portsmouth.

Portsmouth.

Darren Bundock, from Australia, and his crew John Forbes Ilfred the Tornado world title in style yesterday by winning the final two races of the series. It was Bundock's first world title in this high performance Olympic class. But the triumph was familiar territory for Forbes, a winner three times previously while salining with Mitch Booth who finished third this time.

TORNADO WORLD CHAMPIONISHIP (Bazdos, Br) Final overall results: 1 D Bundock/i Forbes (Aus) 200c. 2 R Gaebler/R Schwall (Ger) 32; 3 M Booth/A Landenberger (Aus) 51; 4 F Le Peutre/O Douvillard (Fr) 52; 5 F Leon J L Ballester (Sp) 56; 6 A Hagara/W Moser (Auf) 57: 7 P Flennec/J Gulchard (Fr) 61; 8 R Hagara/H P Steinacher (Auc) 87; 9 R Van leyinger/H Decisen (Neth) 99: 10 M Nyberg/M Strandberg (Swe) 105.

SUNDAY'S LATE RESULT: Liverpool Victoria JK Championship (Bournemonth) Final: J Higgins (Scolot M Stevens (Wal) 10-6.

SQUASH

MAHINDRA MEN'S WORLD OPEN

CHAMPTONSHIP (Doha, Casar) First
rounds M Berrett (Eng) bt 5 Meads (Eng)
15-9 15-11 13-15 5-15 15-13; B Davs

(Aus) bt N Dugan 9-15 9-15 17-15 15-7
15-11: A Hill (Aus) bt J Ramoulin (Fin) 15-7
17-15 12-15 10-15 15-9: L Beechill

(Eng) bt J Bonecat (Fr) 15-11 8-15 15-9
15-8: N Taylor (Eng) bt A Shabana (Eg)
15-7 15-6 ret; A Gough (Ma) bt AF Khan

(Hill) 15-10 15-10 15-13; J Power bt M

Zaman (Pak) 15-12 15-8 15-4; T Lincou

(Fr) bt 22 J Khan (Pak) 14-17 15-5 15-12
15-12.
PSA WORLD RANKONGS: 1 P Nicol

15-12.
PSA BIORLD RANKINGS: 1 P Nicol (Sco); 2 A Barada (Eg); 3 J Power (Can); 4 P Johnson (Eng); 5 M Heath (Sco); 6 D Jenson (Asis); 7 R Eyles (Aus); 8 J Khan (Pak); 9 S Parke (Eng); 10 D Ryan (Ire); 11 A Gough (Wal); 12 C Walker (Eng); 13 M Chaloner (Eng); 14 B Davis (Aus); 15 A Khan (Pak), Selected Others: 16 M Carris (Eng); 18 J White (Sco); 19 D Evans (Wal).

TENNIS

FINAL AIP TOUR RANGINGS: 1 P Sampras (US) 3915pts: 2 M Rios (Chile) 3670;
3 A Carreda (Sp) 3398; 4 P Rather (Aus)
3315; 5 C Moya (Sp) 3199; 6 A Agasa (US)
2879; 7 T Herman (GB) 2620; 8 K Kucera
(Slovak) 2579; 9 G Ruseiski (GB) 2573;
10 R Krajicak (Neth) 2548; 11 Y Kafeinkov
(Rus) 2515; 12 G Ivanisevic (Cros) 2137;
13 P Korda (Ca Rep.) 2114; 14 A Costa (Sp)
1823; 15 M Philippoussis (Aus) 1792; 16
1Martin (US) 1776; 17 T Johansson (Swej)
1761; 18 C Pioline (Fr) 1710; 19
1Semerink (Neth) 1669; 20 F Mantulla (Sp)
1643, Other Gib; 182 C Wilkinson, 303
M Moclugan 119; 312 B Cowan 116; 324
N Gould 105; 333 M Lee 101; 342 A
Rochardson 97; 380 L Milligan 85; 428 J
Delgado 67; 468 A Permar 59.

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WORLDCOVER

FOOTBALL 7.30 unless stated FR CUP FIRST-ROUND REPLAYS

Notes County v Hendon (7.45) Kidderminster v Plymouth (7.45) ... WORTHINGTON CUP nderland v Luton (7.45) ... mbledon v Chelsea (7.45).

NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE SECORED DIVISI Wigan v Fulham (7.45)...... THIRD DIVISION borough (7,45)

ENDSLEIGH CHALLENGE TROPHY SECOND ROUND

RYMAN LEAGUE Premier Division:
Boreham Wood v Harrow Borough; Dulwich Harriet v Carshalton, First Division:
Leatherhead v Barton Rovers (7-45);
Wembley v Malderhead (7-45). Second
Division: Bedford Rown v Chalfont St Peter (7-45); Marlow w Metropolitan Police;
Thame v Wivenhoe (7-45). Taird Divistans Wingate & Finchiery Croydon Anlette (7-45), Isthinitan League CupSecond round: Staines v Sough, PumaCup First round: Grays Athlete v Wesidstone. Second round: Whyteleafe v
Gravesend & Northfleet: Enfeld v St Albons. Vandamel Trophy First round:
Egham v Hungerford (7-45). Second
round: Capton v Edymare (7-45); Hemel
Hempstead v Windsor & Eton (7-45); tooling & Mitcham v Horstam (7-45).
UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier Division: ing or Micham v Horsham (7.45).
UNESOND LEAGUE Premier Divisions
Bamber Bridge v Leigh RMI; Stalybridge
v Worksop, First Divisions: Fliston v Congleton, Challenge Cup second round: Afreton v Belper; Blydr, Spartans v Bradford
Park Avenue: Lancascer v Trafford; Wilcom
Ablon v Winsford, Second-round replay:
Guiseley v Spennymoor.

TODAY'S FIXTURES DR HARTINES LIAGUE Pressler Del-sions King's Lynn v Atherstone (7.45). Southern Divisions Ashford v Sitting-bourne (7.45). League Cap First round second leg: Fisher Athletic (2) v St Leonards (2) (7.45): Folkestone Invicts (3) v Margate (3) (7.45): Scamford (0) v Cor-by (1) (7.45): Ronberidge (1) v Darriford (1) (7.45): Yate (2) v Weston-super-Mare (3): Illuston (0) v Grantham (4): Sutton Cold-field (2) v Hinckley Utd (0). FRA CAPL SREARD WASE Second round: Garforth v Prescot Cables (7.45); Clitheroe v West Auckland (7.45); Mossley v Consett (8.0); Warrington v Loud (8.0); St Andrews v Bluxon (7.45); Barkingskie v Tlorne (7.45). Second-round replays: Morpeth v St Helens (7.45); Camberley v Burgess Hill (7.45); Yadey v Diss (7.45).

HIII (7.45): Yordey v Diss (7.45).

WHISTONLEAD NENT LEAGUE Promier
Division: Tunbridge Wells v Whitstable
Yown. Pransier Division Cup Second
Young Parensian Town v Hythe Utd,
UNIUSY SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE
Farse Division: Orichester City v East Preston: Redhill v Sattlean Utd. Ringmer v
Langney Sports; Wick v Pagham.

: .. .

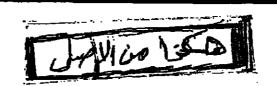
SCRIMINIX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Di-vision: Bridgeater v Barnstopie: Briding-ton v Bundon, Les Phillips Cop Second round: Melisham v Pevasey Vale: NORTHEIRN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Cop Second round: Ecclesial v Ossett Com. MORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE CUP First round: Maine Road y Atherton LR. First round: Maine Road v Acherton LR.
INTERLINK ENPRESS EMDLAND ALLIANCE: Sandwell Borough v Stapenhit;
Stourport Swifts v Rushall Olympic.
JENSON WESSEX LEAGUE: Totton v Newborg BAT Sports v Whitchurd; Bournemouth
v Bemerton Heath; Gosport Borough v Domton. League Cop Second round first leg:
Brockenhurst v Lymington & New Mitton.
JENSON BASTERN LEAGUE (7.45) Pramier Division: Harwich & Parkeston v
Stowmarket; Loweston't v Febrone. Laugue
Cup second round: Dereham v Somersham;
Swaithham v Newmarket; Warboys v Histon
ARNOTT INSURANCE BOOKTHERNE

ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN LEAGUE FIRE Disision: Cresce-te-Street v Billingham Synthonia: Dunston Fil v Shiltion; Stockton v Praytib,

Olfromfile v Crusaders; Distillery v Dummurry Rec. Dungarinon Swifes v Carrick: Glentorar v Newry: Larne v RIJC POSITIVIS LEAGUE Premier Division: Liverpool v Aston Villa (7 0). First Division: Covertry v Middlesbrough (7.0), Grimsby v Oldham (7 0). Third Division: Halltax v Chester (2.0). AVON INSURANCE CONBINATION First Division: Milmail v Portsmouth (2.0), Tot-tenham v Wycombe.

RUGBY UNION 7.30 unless stated
TOUR MATCHES: Ireland A v South Africa
(7.0) (or Ravenhill): Leeds v Fili. STELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE Presider Di-utsion: Ebbs Vale v Llanetti (7.0); Pontypridd v Caerphilly (7.75).

ICE HOCKEY **EUROPEAN LCAGLE: Mannheim (Ger) v Ayr** icotdsh Eagles.





SP()KI



SPRINGBOKS PUMPED UP FOR ENGLAND P27 ● HUDSON THE WALKING MIRACLE P26

Second Test: Australia take advantage of tourists' inferiority complex to claim victory and go one up in Ashes series England batsmen take the blame

BY DEREK PRINCLE in Perth

England 112 & 191 Australia 240 & 64-3 Australia win by 7 wkts

THE DEFEAT that England have diced with ever since their arrival in Australia finally materialised and they leave Perth chasing a familiar one-nil deficit. If losing to Australia by seven wickets inside three days is a humiliation most would choose to avoid, it could have been much worse and the freak storm that saved them in Brisbane has at least kept this Ashes series from turning to dust by the third Test.

As England's captain Alec Stewart candidly admitted, it is a position England have been in before. But if coming back against South Africa was a remarkable effort last summer. doing the same to Australia at home, will depend on the amount of psychological damage the defeat has inflicted on the batsmen.

Indeed, with only Graeme Hick. playing in place of the injured Graham Thorpe, able to dominate, the inferiority complex now taking hold will become increasingly difficult to shift. Now that the series is heading back east, Australia's confidence will move into overdrive.

"I always felt that Brisbane and Perth were the venues that might suit England's bowlers best, so I'm delighted to be one-nil up." Mark Taylor said. "As for any psychological advantage, that's been built up over 10 years of cricket."

In fact, the WACA pitch did suit England's bowlers who were every bit as competitive on the bouncy speedway as their opponents. Alex Tudor impressed with his pace and accuracy and taking 4 for 89 against Australia represents a fine debut.

Where the main differences lie. however, is in batting technique and catching, two areas Australia have long excelled at. There is nothing more disheartening for a bowling side to create chances and fluff them. Ignoring the crucial misses in Brisbane, England spilled eight chances, a sloppy display in stark were caught and only one dropped.

The batting was even worse. Judging by the way many batsmen were reticent about getting into line, the pre-match propaganda about the pitch clearly worked. When players did cover their offstump they invariably did so with half a bat, playing at deliveries most of the Aussies chose to leave alone. "We were guilty of playing at too

of the type of pitches we play on back volved with the side. Surely one of the reasons England did not send their strongest one-day

agreed Stewart. "They let balls go

side to Bangladesh was so the Test players involved could play against Western Australia and get a taster of the unique WACA pitch. If they did. it turned pretty sour.

As it turned out the toss was an important factor, but Taylor's decision to bowl first - something Stew- there was nothing untoward on

many balls outside off-stump," art admitted he would not have days two and three. By then England in their hands so soon, Gillespie reldone - was in the face of advice from that pass over the stumps. Because the three Western Australians in-

WACA has tended to crack up, making batting last a virtually impossible task. But this one has been relaid and as there was no evidence of cracks, Taylor did not feel that batting last represented as much a problem as perhaps batting

first when the grass was fresh. Yet if some sideways movement

made things difficult on the first day

needed a miracle and although Hick ished the challenge. threatened with a savage 68, Aus-

were always in charge.

Hick, who is staying with the party and will be considered for the

next Test, added 26 runs to his beaten, this time on 47. overnight score before he became tims. On Sunday, Hick had humiliated Gillespie, who conceded 69 runs from nine overs. But if there were plenty of bowlers who would have blanched at having the ball put

Johnson quits as

Everton chairman

six balls. For the second time in two Tests Mark Ramprakash was left un-

It isn't often a Test match is over rift between the batting and the bowling of both sides on this fast, bouncy Perth pitch, helped to accelerate the match.

Yet if losing to Australia has be-

Australia's fast bowler Jason Gillespie cannot hide his delight after trapping England's Darren Gough fbw for a first-ball duck in Perth yesterday

come something of a habit over the last decade, the timing of this par-The approach brought reward too ticular defeat is appropriate. Over tralia, despite losing three wickets and once Hick had gone, edging the the next two days, the First Class England's tail with four wickets in is meeting to decide the format the English county game will take in the next millennium.

If ever there was a wake-up call for change. England's poor showing the first of Jason Gillespie's five vic- before tea on the third day but the in this match was it and once again their technique and temperament were shown to be suspect under

> pressure. To say that county cricket is flawed, is like "stating the bleedin"

obvious," and doubters need look no further than the case of John Crawley, whose batting in this match ilhistrates why domestic cricket is a poor breeding ground for Test crick-

Last season, Crawley was Lancashire's best batsmen, scoring 1,395 first-class runs at an average of 69.75. Against Australia's pace men in Perth, he was made to look a novice as they probed his weakness outside off-stump. It is quite obvious that the bowlers he faces day in and day out at home are not good enough to consistently expose it and he has been allowed to flourish without having to eradicate this glaring flaw.

He is not the only one who would benefit from more rigorous domestic competition. But if a two-divisional Championship is now more likely than it was a year ago, it will still not go far enough and what is needed is a format that concentrates the cream of the talent in five or six teams and allows it to rise to the top. Until that happens. Australia will remain an occasional conquest.

SCOREBOARD

The Trylor of Hick & Mulially
27 mb. (5 both)
31 Langer of Arterton & Tudor
41 min, 21 both
32 both
33 both
41 min, 21 both
58 min, 21 both
59 min, 37 both
59 min, 37 both
51 Cours
58 Waugh not out
59 min, 29 both
50 total (for 3, 100 min, 23 overs)
50 botal (for 3, 100 min, 23 overs)
50 botal (for 3, 100 min, 23 overs)
50 botal (for 3, 100 min, 23 overs)
64 Path
67 16 (Daylor) 2-24 (Stacer) 3-36 (Langer)
65 Path
67 16 (Daylor) 2-24 (Stacer)
69 5-18-1 (one spell): Mulially
69 24-1 (6-0-18-1, 3-0-6-0). Tudor 5-0-19-1
60 (hb2) (one spell).
67 Orgress: Taird day: 50: 77 mn, 17.3 overs.
68 Unspires: D Harper and S Venikataraghavas.
68 Unspires: D Harper and S Venikataraghavas.
69 Man of the equator: D W Ferning.
60 Computed by to King

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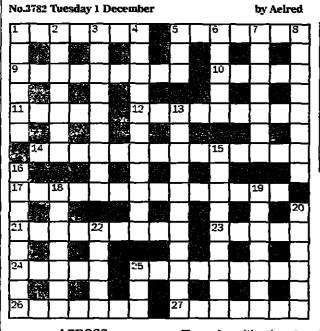
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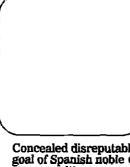
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THE TUESDAY CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
 1 Place where women will find answer in drink (7)
 5 Foolish type with man's garments (7)
 9 Put out underworld with sugar-coated thing (9)
 10 Experienced judge meets one who has been on a pilgrimage (5)
 11 Rot e.g. could come from fungal disease (5)
- from fungal disease (5) 12 Keep governor chucked by woman to join knight
- 14 Doctrinairism of a type unkown to one who is so? (14) 17 Study by Gregory, one into a Latin organised
- type of church (14) 21 Conditional question? (3.3.3)
- 23 Engage in contest with

Colour Prof. N. Athans Road, Watford

GETTONIES READDOWN S NOGEL TOWER PERIL TOBN NSCO AUREADY TAUNTON ALHEADY DOCUMENT OF STREET


- Henry in cultivation (5) Success at finish to set in abnormal position (5) 25 CO, say, made passion for thickets? go (6.3) 26 General changes to inadulterate wine (5,6)
 - drowning order (7) **DOWN** In the south of France Dennis is abrupt (6) Like tale by one that's a
 - Wears mini in twoseater? (6.3) Movingly facing lefty for a fight (11) Axe Liberal from sect
- Awful chore making one 25 vellow (5)

bit pointed? (7)

- Concealed disreputable goal of Spanish noble (7) How to cultivate yens 13 Aniline just used to
- 15 With stronger reason fixed ratio for one (1,8) 16 Perhaps igloo which fridge made redundant?
- 18 Maybe lead to policy of Roosevelt? (3,4) Brisk movement afforded in normal legroom 20 Pursued, we hear, but
- virtuous (6) One taking journey car-ries fish in Rolls-Royce Power that is provided

by pastry (3)

some players. . Published by Independent Newspapers (UK) Limited. I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 SDE, and printed at Mirror Back comes available from Historic Newspapers, 01988

BY PAUL WALKER

Jersey, has handed over the day-to-day running of the club to Sir Philip. Everton's second statement,

FOOTBALL

the chairmanship, and that yesterday afternoon, said: "After 11 years as chairman of a football club, four years at Everton and seven at Tranmere, Peter Johnson has destatement yesterday morning cided to stand down. The role has become increasingly diffispelling out the fact that Smith did not know about Ferguson's cult since he moved to Jersey. £7m transfer to Newcastle be-Sir Philip Carter and Bill Kenfore the deal was agreed a wright have agreed to take over as chairman and vice-chairman respectively but Mr Johnson will remain on the board as a non-executive director.

the board as a non-executive director and over the coming months he will be considering options for his 68 per cent beneficial interest. The decision to step down will not affect the sale of his interest in Tranmere

which is currently underway." Johnson cited the fact of his residence in Jersey and ill health as the main reasons for his decision. He has been looking for a buyer for some time. having won control in 1994 after a battle with a consortium headed by former Coronation Street actor Kenwright. That cost Johnson around £10m; a figure between £50m and £60m is being mooted as the value of Johnson's shares now.

Glenn Moore on the end of an Everton era, page 26

Plan to cap club wage bills

to sanctions, including fines.

Third Division clubs in the New

WAGE-CAPPING may be intro- By NICK HARRIS duced into English football next season in an effort to save an increasing number of threatened lower-division clubs from financial ruin. The move is likely to start on an experimental basis in the Third Division and could be extended if successful.

PETER JOHNSON is to quit as

Everton chairman in the wake

of his row with manager Walter

Smith following the controver-

sial sale of Duncan Ferguson.

a statement issued by the club

yesterday that he will give up

vice-chairman Sir Philip Carter

will take over with director Bill

The club initially issued a

week ago. That admission in-

dicated the working relation-

ship between Johnson and

Now Johnson, who lives in

Smith had broken down.

Kenwright as his deputy.

Johnson confirmed through

Although there will be no fixed maximum that an individual will be able to earn - that would be illegal and the proposed caps will be voluntary chibs' overall salary bills will be linked to turnover, which will effectively lead to cuts in pay for

Average Third Division salaries of £25,000 - rising to £50,000 with bonuses - are Year and, if accepted, could be

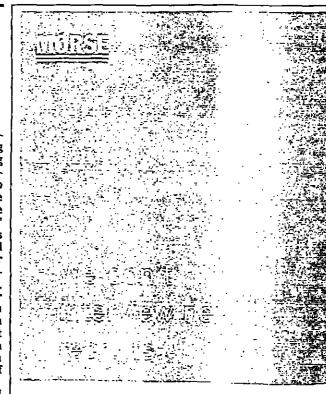
in place in the lowest division of the Nationwide League by

small when compared with next summer. Premiership levels, but are ris-"We're looking at proposals ing unsustainably. Packages of where wages would be capped between £50,000 and £70,000 are not uncommon in the

to a percentage of club turnover, with 60 per cent the league's lowest division, and the figure being discussed," said new plan will seek to introduce Hearn, who added that wage indeflation and stability. Any club flation is the main threat to breaking the caps will be liable clubs with financial problems. The new proposal may set an The proposals, which have absolute limit on total squad the backing of the Football pay to make it more equitable. League, are being put forward The average turnover in the by Leyton Orient's Barry Third Division is around £1m Hearn, who is chair of the Third and wage levels of 60 per cent Division Chairmen's Commitof that are considered sustaintee. The plans will be put to

> Football's fight for survival, page 22

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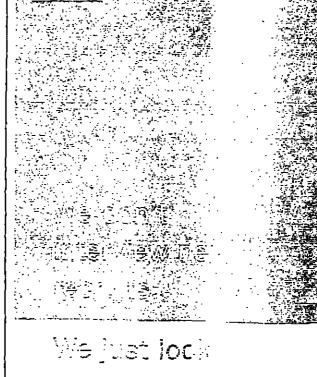
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TUESDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION

It's got to go

Oscar Wilde deserved a monument fit for a hero of art, love and politics. Instead Maggi Hambling has sculpted a wilfully tacky, silly, Tussaudian tragedy

BY TOM LUBBOCK

a monument to Oscar Wilde in Lonshould be a major monument. We're not Fields, with the state's blessing too. The talking about some half-cocked tourist-trapping nonsense, like the statue of Charlie in attendance. It is a figurative work. It is Chaplin in Leicester Square. This would a plain distaster. As a piece of any-oldbe a monument with serious business to street-sculpture, dead silly. In view of do – for us, for London.

doubt whether public sculpture is nowadays capable of doing serious business at start with. all. It's quite hard to imagine what that vould even feel like. But consider Wilde's story: it's a big one with big themes. Don't pavement. Its top surface just think of the irresistible personality or slopes up at one end, like the slave of beauty or the glittering drama- a sun-lounger. To this tist or the sexual dissident and martyr. Think of the destructive amour fou, the reckless double life, the noble but evasive court defence, the determination to face disgrace, the broken prisoner.

It's not just a life that's involved. Wilde's story is iconic: he's a hero of art, love, politics, comedy, individualism, conscience. It's on our conscience too. It's a piece of grand, emblematic, messy, unfinished history - heroic, tragic, bathetic, shameful that needs public remembering and honour and reparation. That's a job a public sculpture, just imaginably, might do, and not for Wilde's sake only, but for ours.

Public sculpture, ideally, doesn't merely stand there as outdoor decor or eyecatching curio. It stands for us. It's a form of collective speech and collective action. True, Wilde has his tomb in Père Lachaise cemetery in Paris, one of Epstein's finest, and he now has a memorial in Poets' Corner. But a Wilde monument, permanently visible on London's streets, might have been and done something great. Perhaps something like that was what was originally envisaged. The idea was the late Derek Jarman's. The campaign was taken up by various prominent cultural figures, including Sir Jeremy Isaacs, Dame Judi Dench, Sir Ian McKellen and Nobel Laureate Seamus Heaney. Design-proposals were invited from artists. Funds were raised by public subscription, and from various charitable bodies. The project showed a real and proper V_t storian public spirit. And if the emits shows Wilde "rising above" his misfor-

ge cause itself was enent persons behind it had any right and good and sense of the serious work their monoverdue. There ument might do... Well, how could they should certainly be conceivably have entrusted the job to a monument to Maggi Hambling?

But that's what they did. And A Con don, the scene of versation with Oscar Wilde was unveiled his triumphs and yesterday in Adelaide Street, the pedestrials and fall. It trianised area behind St-Martin-in-the-Culture Secretary was among the notables the monument it might have been It's a kind of test case. Many people a tragedy. There are many rea sons: whimsy and triviality, to

> A polished stone sarslope, a bronze bust of Wilde, plus right hand, are attached - as if the figure was surfacing through the stone, as if Wilde were sitting up out of the tomb. Sitting up, and still talking away. Wilde is caught

mouth gabbing, hand gesturing with cigarette. And he's talking to us - for the tomb works as a street bench too, where we can sit and enjoy

mid-mot,

A "playful" piece then: already a very bad conception for a public work. And note that the Wilde memorialised here is only the irrepressible talker, the repartee-animal (plus a touch of the aesthete look - there's the carnation, patinated light green). We have nothing of the nerve, the folly, the ruin, the glory. We have nothing for history - only the whimsical notion of us chatting cheerfully with this an-

odyne figment. It's a Tussauds Wilde. Or you might say, it preserves an image of Wilde just as a playgoer of a hundred years ago might have liked it preserved. Fantastic wit and charmer, magnificent character-terribly sad about, best not to think about the scan-

tunes. Those misfortunes are the story. As for that wit, the foot of the tomb is inscribed with a well-known line from Lady Windermere's Fan: "We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars." And I seem to remember someone brightly suggesting that the thought might particularly appeal to London's home-

less, who are often found in this area. It may well do. Anyone who's read the poetry pages of The Big Issue will know that ssness is no cure for sentimentality. But it remains one of Wilde's stupider remarks. It's stupid because (a) some people really are in the gutter, but we aren't

.all, and to pretend we are is sheer selfdramatisation, (b) if we were in the gutter, looking at the stars wouldn't much help the metaphor is wilfully unimaginative about life in the gutter. What's more, its citation here, as emblematic or quintessential Wilde, is very untrue to Wilde's own experience. When he came to write De Profundis from prison he was fully alive to the falsity of this kind of air-headed high-mind-

All this is bad enough. But the decisive problem is not the message but the making of the piece. It's wilful tack. The bust you what. and hand aren't solid metal. They materi-

alise from a sort of macaroni tangle of undulating tubey strands. It's a likeness - but why done like this? The head looks silly. The technique does too.

Hambling is mainly a painter, and I guess she may be going here for a sculptural version of one of her painting styles, where the figure is rendered in paint strands and loops, light on a dark ground. On canvas it can create a brisk, evanescent vivacity. But breezy brushstrokes can't be translated into three dimensions so literally. I mean, what does it look like? I'll tell

In medieval tomb sculpture there's

something called a transi. You have a twotier tomb, in which the deceased person is represented twice. On the top tier they lie, dressed, praying or whatever, more or less alive. Underneath they appear again - as a rotting cadaver, the flesh decomposing, riddled with worms. That's the transi. I think A Conversation with Oscar Wilde may be one too. Its construction looks dis-

tinctly vermiform. But it can't be. We can't be meant to be chatting away with a wriggling corpse. It can't want to call Wilde worm-eaten. But in the circumstances, the association can't Continued on page 8



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Which Europe?

Sir: The letter from the officers of the European Movement (30 November) on the vexed EMU question advances our knowledge or enlightenment not a jot. The same applies to letters from Eurosceptics - the same old arguments from the same sources who have been sounding off for

years. Surely the position is this: The most stupid question one can ask today is: "Are you for or against Europe?" It is like asking: "Are you for or against the Atlantic?" There are just two queries that have to be addressed. The first is: "What kind of Europe?"

For years arguments have raged as to where exactly Europe, in the meaning of the EU, is really heading. Successive leaders have pleaded that we did not know enough and therefore could not decide. Following the multiple statements of last week this question has surely been answered clearly, decisively and finally, as fog disappearing before a stiff breeze. The EU is heading towards a single, highly centralised, fully integrated Federal Republic of Europe. No more talk of a "Europe of Nations" or De Gaulle's old Union des Patries please. We now know exactly what is in prospect and it is not going to change, whatever Britain's hopeful suasions.

The second question is therefore: "What in the view of a clear majority of the British people should be our relationship with that Europe over the decades to come?" And here the Rubicon is the abolition of the pound under EMU. Mr Major delayed for five years, Mr Blair wants another five and Mr Hague ten. The choice is clear, and there is no need for further delay. It is either fullfledged, no-holds-barred and enthusiastic absorption or a freshly negotiated sovereigntybased trading relationship.

It is not the decision that is causing ravages to our unity and national morale; it is the endless indecisiveness FREDERICK FORSYTH Hertford

Sir. John Rentoul's article on EU tax harmonisation (28 November) was a useful antidote to some of last week's more extreme attempts to concoct a "hidden agenda" of EU tax rises. But it could usefully have added two points made clear by Commissioner Mario Monti, responsible for all proposals on EU tax matters.

First, far from being the standard-bearers of high tax, the Commission has consistently argued that EU governments should cut the proportion of GDP taken in tax. Fair tax competition benefits the European economy by making it more competitive. If goals can be met without taxes, so much the better. So the aim of reducing tax evasion on savings could be met either through a coordinated withholding tax, or by exchange of information. The current proposal leaves it to national governments to choose which option they prefer.

Second, the limits of the current debate should be clear. Any suggestion of a common EU income tax is ludicrous. Common action on VAT dates back to 1977, so another look at VAT within the Single Market makes sense, but there should always be some flexibility for EU governments to apply reduced rates to certain goods. Co-ordination to tackle tax evasion and tax breaks acting as hidden state aids means there would be even less reason to look at common rates of corporation

It is quite natural for the 11 EU countries who will be using the euro in one month's time to be thinking hard about how to maximise the effectiveness of a newly strengthened Single Market. The UK government clearly understands this, as shown by Dawn Primarolo's active chairmanship of the current group on the code of conduct on unfair tax competition. This

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Roaring Forties No 2: Crew members arriving for for work on the new shift, in the latest of our series of photographs about life on Enterprise Oil's Nelson platform in the Forties region of the North Sea

understanding is not shared by much of the UK media, determined to see this through the prism of the domestic debate on whether or not to join the euro. But their attempts to score points by caricaturing the current debate are unlikely to register much interest in the countries concerned with the serious business of making the euro a GEOFFREY MARTIN Head of Representations in the United Kingdom

The European Commission London SW1

Tyrant on trial

Sir: I have written to the Home Secretary urging him to allow the General Pinochet to proceed.

The STUC has a long history of involvement with the cause of democracy in Chile, going back to the period in the aftermath of the 1973 coup when we facilitated the resettlement in Scotland of Chilean refugees, and the Rolls Royce workforce refused to work on jet engines destined for the Chilean air force.

The decision of the House of Lords that Senator Pinochet does not enjoy immunity on the basis of his having been a head of state is highly significant for the way in which legality operates internationally.

There have been calls for General Pinochet to be allowed to return to Chile on compassionate grounds because of his age. I will resist the temptation to refer at length to the thousands who have had no opportunity to grow old because they died on his orders, and restrict myself to the clear argument that compassion, if it is to be exercised, should come at the stage of sentencing, not prior to any trial.

The decision of the House of Lords has given hope and encouragement to the many people, not just in the United Kingdom, who have felt that redress through the rule of law is

exercised only by the powerful against the powerless... BILL SPEIRS General Secretary Scottish Trades Union Congress Glasgow

Sir; In the wake of the decision of the Law Lords that the Spanish request for extradition of General Pinochet can go forward, a number of Conservative MPs have used various media platforms to draw an analogy between Pinochet and republican and loyalist prisoners in Northern Ireland released early under the Good Friday agreement. They have tried to construct an argument that deals made as part of wider political settlements should be allowed to stand without the

governments. They must not get away with this. In terms of no less a fundamental principle than the rule of law itself, it does not stand up to scrutiny. In the case of the Northern Ireland terrorists, though not in that of Pinochet, the law has rightly taken its course.

Sir: I am delighted that **Anthony Wood (Letter. 26** November) thinks that the unelected monarch ... speaks for the entire population". I don't. Seeing as we disagree. can we have a vote on it? The Rev DAVID E FLAVELL Liverpool

Sir: Philip Hensher's article about highly able children ("Leave those brainy kids alone", 27 November) would have been applauded by none other than Bernard Shaw. In 1892 he wrote a review of Dame Clara Butt, then a student at the Royal College of Music. "If Miss Butt has sufficient strength of mind to keep her eyes, ears and mind open in the artistic atmosphere of the Royal College, without for a moment allowing herself to be

They did not, unlike Pinochet, grant immunity to themselves. Indeed, unlike Pinochet, they have not been granted immunity at all. Unlike Pinochet they have all stood trial: unlike Pinochet they have all been convicted: unlike Pinochet, they have all served time and their convictions stand.

It is to be hoped that Jack Straw will not be seduced by such spurious arguments. MARK RAWSON Oxford

Sir: General Pinochet's health (and thus his ability to stand trial) is not an issue which should be decided by the Home Secretary. That would be too early in the judicial process and, if extradition were to be denied on those grounds, would become wha everyone remembered about this case. It is better that his ability to stand trial be decided by the Spanish court at the time of his arraignment.

Similarly, it is very important for the development of international law in this area that the UK delivers a "clean" decision based

IN BRIEF

instantly stops the alternative

process of learning), she may

make a considerable career for

taught (a process which

ROGER VIGNOLES

Sir: Ben James (letter, 26

of the decision to open

subsidiary branches [of

Parliament) in Wales and

both areas called for such

has been providing for

countries had thriving

November) asks for a "review

Scotland". The shareholders in

branches themselves, having

been heartily sick and tired of

businesses of their own before

the poor service Head Office

centuries. And indeed, both

herself'

London NW5

solely on the legal merits of the case and does not let the waters be muddied by political or trade considerations. PETER J HOLDEN Marlborough, Wiltshire

Sir: The old colonial boys are on the rampage again. The pressure on Chile to condone the extradition of General Pinochet to the colonial power can only rankle among the now free citizens of Latin America. Dr M B J McGRATH Cahir, Co Tipperary, Ireland

CJD warnings

Sir: Steve Connor's report "Cystitis drug may help to prevent CJD" (26 November) helpfully publicised the need to discover vhether pentosan polysulphate might prevent or arrest the development of CJD in persons already infected.

Are the Department of Health taking notice of this drug due to Dr Stephen Dealler's very noisy methods of goading officialdom? Over the decades, as a scientist, I may have mistakenly chosen to use

the aggressive takeover strategies of England plc put paid to them. ADAM RYKALA Plaid Cymru Blaenau Gwent

Sir: On page two of the Weekend Review (28 November) a letter from Michael O'Hare gives examples of the Americanisation of the UK. On page one, the feature "I have seen the future" contains these pearls: "Christmas is slated to bring yet more goodies." (Why should Christmas be criticised for that?); and "The Rugrats Movie has snuck up from behind" (Is this some arcane irregular form of the verb "to snack"?) PHILIP D DELNON Swanscombe, Kent

quieter, more carefully reasoned methods for suggestions, warnings or criticisms on CJD-related topics of my several attempts, only my 1976 warning of CJD-contaminated human growth hormone yielded

any positive official response. I do not think that there is a shred of evidence for the assertion by Dr Dealler that the children of those who have died from human BSE are at higher risk of also being infected. Needless distress will result from his statement. Is such hype needed to provoke official action? Put more generally, do those with a poor "signal-to-noise ratio" tend to become government advisers? Dr A G DICKINSON

Winslet's wedding

Sir: I cannot comment on the other

Lasswade, Midlothian

instances mentioned in Emma Cook's sneering article "How lo-fi can you go?" (25 November) but I can speak with some authority about Kate Winslet's wedding. It was as near a normal wedding as someone in Kate's position was going to be allowed and it was thoroughly genuine. I try to ensure that each couple marrying in my church do so in the style most appropriate to them, and I am quite clear that we achieved that aim in Jim and Kate's case. If they had wanted opera singers, string quartets, costumes and stage sets we could have accommodated them, and it would have been splendid, but it would not have

reflected the people that they are. I realise that you cannot libel a building, but to describe All Saints, Downshire Square, as a "quaint little local church" is almost actionable: it is a sumptuous Victorian Gothic basilica which seats five hundred, as a moment's research would have told Ms Cook. West Reading may not be Knightsbridge, but it is possible to have style outside the capital. FT HENRY EVERETT Vicar, All Saints. Downshire Square Reading, Berkshire

Leukaemia children

Sir. The Leukaemia Research Fund has been greatly saddened to learn of the death of Georgina Horlick Despite all the pressures on her time, Georgina's mother. Nicola, has given selfless and invaluable support to the fundraising efforts of the Leukaemia Research Fund.

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It is unfortunate that reports in your paper and in The Independent on Sunday have contained errors of fact which may unnecessarily alarm the parents of other children with leukaemia. The Independent on Sunday has stated that about 1,200 children a year are diagnosed with leukaemia. Happily the true figure is about 420 cases a year.

More seriously, the impression is given (report, 30 November) that within the last five years bonemarrow transplants have become the treatment of choice for childhood leukaemia. This is not the case. Some two-thirds to threequarters of all children with acute leukaemia will have an excellent response to chemotherapy. The relatively more toxic and dangerous hone-marrow transplant approach is reserved for children identified as having high-risk leukaemia or for children, like Georgina, who have relapsed. The article further implies that long-term follow up treatment is a new approach, whereas this was introduced about 30 years ago.

There is little or no evidence to support the assertion that every last leukaemia cell must be destroyed for treatment to be successful. This is the subject of ongoing research but there is historical evidence to suggest that cure is not dependent on a strategy of total annihilation of all leukaemia cells.

Although there has been major progress in treatment of childhood leukaemia, there is much work still to be done. Education of the public has a valuable part to play, but it is vital that the information is timely and accurate. KENNETH CAMPBELL Leukaemia Research Fund

Bottom of the list

Sir: Michael Cooper (letter, 28 November) rightly points out that the closed list system precludes independents like Martin Bell ever being elected. But this is only the half of it.

In our parliamentary system it is candidates who stand for election. and there is a list of requirements and exclusions that control who can and cannot stand. In this respect, parties are not registered or formally recognised in law, so since when have they become an electable entity? If the constitution is to be opened up like this, we must know what organisations can and cannot take part.

Another key point arises from the fact that we, the electorate, will learn who will represent us only after the election. Will this new type of representative be governed by the same rules as apply currently to candidates? At what stage are they to be screened and by whom? MAX BERAN Didcot, Oxfordshire

No going back

Sir: Ed Clarke's omelette (letter 30 November) will not unscramble back into eggs because of the entropy (irreversibility) created in the process of its manufacture. A better measure of the passage of time and its associated irreversibility is to ponder the claim, "Nuclear electricity will be too cheap to meter." May I have a research grant please? Professor A PORTEOUS Faculty of Technology The Open University Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire

Correction

The extract quoted in the first paragraph of Saturday's Cold Call with Auberon Waugh was wrongly attributed to Sebastian Faulks. It was in fact written by Julian Barnes. We apologise to both

Why General Pinochet's a better bet than Jeremy Clarkson

THE SPECULATION over the identity of the Poet Laureate has not exactly hotted up, but it has at least passed into that stage which is more interesting to every warmblooded Britisher - the betting stage; and odds are now being offered on virtually every conceivable candidate. As I am a bit short of readies in the run-up to Christmas. I am going to start a book on the leading candidates, and I invite you all to send huge wagers to me.

The main runners, with a brief description of each one's history and likely appeal, are as follows...

Benjamin Zephaniah: Traditional Anglo-Rasta-style rant-dub-poet, whose live appearances are always exciting. Poet Laureates, of course, do not make live appearances, so this may be a doubtful advantage. On the other hand, if Zephaniah were to be nominated Poet Laureate, he might well insist on doing live gigs for all royal occasions, and things could change dramatically. His election would appeal enormously to ethnic minorities, as he is black, though not a woman. It would also appeal to the Jewish community. He is not Jewish, but he has two Jewish names, which helps.

John Hegley: A much-published and much-loved younger poet. He has written much poetry in which members of his family are seen darkly as sources of trouble and aggro, and this might well appeal to the Queen. He would also be the first Poet Laureate to have written extensively about wearing spectacles, and I think this would also appeal to the Queen.

Wendy Cope, Fiona Pitt-Kethley, Beryl Bainbridge: Many people feel it is time to have a woman as Poet Laureate, in the spirit of positive discrimination, and Cope and Pitt-Kethley are the obvious ones. Beryl Bainbridge is included because people feel so sorry for her after not getting the Booker Prize. The fact that she does not write poetry should not deter you from sending me money to place on her.

Andrew Motion: The respectable academic choice. He has written a life of Philip Larkin, who ever jone thought should have been the last Poet Laureate, which may or may



KINGTON

He'd be the first Poet Laureate to have written about specs; this would appeal to the Queen

not bode well. Lots of people remember his best-selling pop single, "Poetry in Motion", which,

similarly, may or may not bode well. 25/1

'Sir' Roger McGough: Roger has indicated privately that, if he was made Poet Laureate, he could never justify it to fellow Liverpudlians like Brian Patten or. indeed, to ex-members of The Scaffold, and that he would far prefer a simple knighthood. But he is in with a shout.

20/1

Sir Tim Rice: He has privately indicated that he has got a knighthood already but that it would be nice to have a laureateship to go along with it. The money that's involved is so tiny as to be unmeasurable on Sir Tim's bank account. On the other hand, it would make a most unusual tax loss.

The late Ted Hughes: There is a persistent lobby in favour of Ted Hughes, who many people think cannot be replaced and who would be well honoured by posthumous retention. Those who protest that he is no longer likely to produce poems to mark royal birthdays

is no bad thing.

Richard Branson's Virgin Poem Factory: It is widely thought that Tony Blair may wish to have a hand in the selection of the next Poet Laureate. If he opts for a people's poet, it will almost certainly be one of the afore-mentioned, but if he decides to put it out to tender, then Richard Branson's Virgin Poem di-

Liz Lochhead, Irvine Welsh etc: Normally Scottish poets would be in with a good shout, but at a time

of imminent semi-independence it would be too dangerous to select someone who would also be in the running for Scotland's very own Poet Laureate.

might usefully remember that this

General Pinochet: It is a littleknown fact that the Poet Laureate cannot be extradited for any offence committed abroad, so Pinochet's supporters are moving heaven and earth to get him elected.

100/1 Clive James, Pam Ayres, Kevin Turvey. Jeremy Clarkson. Dame Edna etc

vision will be in with a good chance. Please send SAE for full details

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At last, education is not a political battleground

TODAY'S PUBLICATION of examination league tables is no longer the cue for party political arguments. This is a welcome sign of a new consensus on education policy: as the public debate shifts to the mechanics of teaching and the details of raising schools' performance, so the ideology that so marred the Seventies and Eighties has been fading into the background.

Establishing homework clubs, wiring schools to the Internet, fixing buildings, lowering speed limits for traffic around schools: these seem to be the new minutiae on which schools will be judged. It is as if the great set-piece confrontations over "child-centred learning", grammar schools, selection and coursework have exhausted all the passion of politicians and professionals alike.

The Conservatives do not seem to be interested in opposing the Government's education policies. Proposals for paying teachers by results, in order to attract outstanding graduates to the teaching profession, were circulating in Conservative circles just before the election.

The Prime Minister is skilled at appropriating the political middle ground. New Labour promotes with zeal the same league tables the Tories initiated; the determination to tackle failing schools would have been the same whichever party was in power. Mr Blair has seized the "radical centre" he so covets; the Government's decision to defer to local parents' wishes on selection at 11-plus is a masterly example of this.

The Government knows that the teaching unions are no longer the unassailable vested interest they once were; for one thing, New Labour has skilfully detached the more radical National Union of Teachers from the other unions. It was the NUT alone which yesterday protested at the plans for performance-related pay. David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education, can afford to ignore it; which union has ever come out on strike to resist a hefty pay rise for a good many of its members?

Given the Government's plans to spend more on schools, and Mr Blunkett's obvious emotional commitment to make sure that all children have access to the best education, the left has been silenced. But the right, so passionate for so long about the threat to "standards", also seems to have melted away. No longer does any serious politician envisage a "grammar school in every town", as John Major did: no longer are teachers met with a stream of invective from fashionable academe.

This new consensus opens up possibilities. The devaluation of teaching has become a critical problem, one which dogmas of right and left could not solve. The right would make teachers guardians of an unattainable past, while the left would expose them to classes without the necessary ability to demand discipline from their pupils. fostered that new consensus: it should be congratulated.



Education policy must now rebuild the public's confidence in teachers, and their confidence in themselves.

The gains of peace in our classrooms are clear: rising standards of literacy and numeracy for our children. The gains can already be seen in today's league tables, and the increase in pupils gaining top grades in their GCSEs and A-levels. Those gains are real and measurable - and the detail on specific schools, regions and types of schooling would never have been available without agreement that collating the information was desirable. The tables will be even more detailed and useful in future, when the results achieved by each school will be related to the ability of the children when they entered that school.

Britain's failure to educate itself as well as its competitors has been a cause of social decay and economic decline. If we can now ignore the extremists who would divert us into futile arguments about selection and teaching methods, so much the better. The Government has

An archaic law to deal with a puerile action

THE APPEARANCE of Peter Tatchell in a magistrates' court yesterday tells us more about the Church of England than it does about Mr Tatchell.

His invasion of Archbishop Carey's pulpit during his Easter sermon was childish and counter-productive, fixing in the public mind an image of gay rights campaigners as irresponsible extremists. But the laws under which he stands accused are a throwback to Britain's feudal past. Mr Tatchell has been charged under section 2 of the Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Act of 1860, a law that originated in the Brawling Act of 1551. What nation allows the modern problem of non-violent protest to be tackled under arcane

legislation covering "indecent behaviour in a church"? Those two Acts give all churches a protection that has in a truly "modern" nation.

little grounding in either logic or justice. Company directors have no such protection during board meetings. This is not the only example of Christianity's protected status. It is only the Christian religion that enjoys protection under the blasphemy laws, a standing insult to citizens who profess other faiths.

The Church of England itself enjoys too many exemptions from statute law. Complaints against the clergy are dealt with by consistory courts rather than industrial tribunals. Bishops have the automatic right to sit in the House of Lord - other religions have to rely on government discretion in choosing who sits there. Many bishops are admirable, but they would be better chosen on the same basis as those from other faiths. The bravery of the Bishop of Edinburgh, who has spoken in defence of Mr Tatchell if not his tactics - would make him the first candidate.

Mr Tatchell's actions have not done his own cause much good; but they have highlighted privileges outdated

When will Paddy's party realise it does agree with Tony Blair?

LATER TONIGHT the Liberal Demo- Democrat core programme has been crat MPs in the House of Commons will file into the lobbies - alongside the Hagues, the Redwoods and the mad Pinochistas of the New Forest-to vote ture; this is fact. It is fair to assume against the Government's Queen's Speech. This act of opposition was described by one anonymous senior Lib Dem source as an assertion of separate identity.

This is all rather depressing. It is next asked to choose a government. barely two weeks since Tony and Paddy signed a little billet-doux speaking of their regard for each other, and their plans to expand the role of the Joint Consultative Committee (you know, the one which is discussing constitutional change) to cover other issues. "This will be an important step in challenging the destructive tribalism that can afflict British politics." they trilled. Their aim was "to ensure the ascendancy of progressive politics in Britain".

Amen. For nearly 20 years what a Lib Dem or a centrist Labourite might have thought they saw in Britain was the trampling over liberal and progressive values by a Conservative Party maintained in power by an enriched and desperately selfinterested third of the electorate. Even in its attenuated, Majorite form. the Tory party held out against the modernisation of the British political system, its devolution, and against openness. This was made possible, in part, by the division in the ranks of those opposed to the Conservatives, and in part by the agonisingly slow process of change within Labour. Since May 1997, a substantial part

of what constituted the Liberal

of sovereignist and federalist

sympathies. The results of the

enacted, or is being proposed, by the Blair government for this parliamentary session. This is not conjecthat by the time of the next election even more of it will have been realised. I may be wrong, but I believe that a Freedom of Information Act will be on the statute books by the time we are

The centrepiece of last week's Queen's Speech was the abolition of the rights of hereditary peers to vote in the House of Lords. It is a reform as radical as that of creating a Scottish Parliament, and as psychologically significant. It is also something that every previous progressive government (obviously) has failed to do. I hope to see the Lords replaced by an elected second chamber, wielding substantial powers of scrutiny, on the basis of open list proportional

representation.
On these grounds alone you might have expected enthusiastic, if qualified, support tonight from the Lib Dems. Even if, as Paddy Ashdown said in last week's debate, "there is much that the Government have done, and intend to do, which we support and on which we have worked with them, but there is also much in this programme for the next year that falls short - in some cases, far short - of what we would wish".

But no. There is the urge to "assert a separate identity". The clever jibes about Paddy's unrequited love for Tony contained in William Hague's because of what is not in it. The key technically brilliant, but intellectually



DAVID AARONOVITCH

Many voters want to see precisely the kind of

organisation that embraces both Blair and Ashdown

to have acted as a goad to the Lib

Dems. "The trouble is," as someone said to me yesterday, "the voters don't really understand the notion of constructive opposition." So pretexts are being sought for voting "No" tonight. At first, these were slightly desultory. The Lewes Lib Dem MP, Norman Baker, told the

House that: "We do not disagree with much in the Queen's Speech, but we have made the point that a huge amount is missing from it - whether on the environment or whatever-and that is terribly important. We have great doubts about the value of the Queen's Speech for that reason." Or

question is this: would the world, in

Queen's Speech were enacted? If the answer is "No", then the decision to vote against may be seen as, at best, a capricious one. And the answer most certainly is "No".

Poor, simple voters may have difficulty with the concept of constructive opposition, but they sure as hell understand destructive opposition; opposition for opposition's sake.

One Lib Dem message that all have absorbed over the years has been the need to replace "yah-boo" politics with something more dignified and more practical. Short shrift would be offered to a party that once espoused such principles, unless it could show that its differences were great and meaningful; that there was a fundamental fissure twixt New Labour and Newish Liberal Democrats.

Such is the contention of magnificent, uncompromising liberals like Earl Russell, and of philosopher Michael Ignatieff. In a pamphlet, Identity and Politics, issued last month under the aegis of the Lib Demassociated Centre for Reform, Ignatieff denied that Tony Blair is a liberal. Au contraire, Blair, "doesn't like what liberals actually stand for, which is liberating the citizen from an oppressive state.

"The liberty I'm talking about", he goes on, "has a strong conception that a community is composed of rational individuals called citizens, and that they act together in deliberation, and It is unusual to oppose something produce a community and a society."

Labour, however, proceeds from "a sense that somehow society is prior, vacuous, speech last Tuesday, seem Liberal Democrat terms, be a better that rights and responsibilities derive fashioned liberals.

place if none of the provisions of the from society". Worse, the Blairite wolf in sheep's clothing seeks now to neutralise liberalism with the Third Way, an attempt to suppress Britain's "ancient tradition of vigorous, antagonistic, but peaceful political argument. Liberals Awake, shouts Ignatieff, "this man [Blair] wants to

put you all to sleep". Insofar as I understand what Ignatieff is saying, I think he is wrong. It is the collectivist part of the centre left (as some suspicious Labour MPs have correctly divined) that has most to fear from a Lib-Lab rapprochement. I see little or nothing in the Blairite prospectus (leaving aside internal party battles) that would give any problem to a modern liberal. Let us recall that one of the main Lib Dem criticisms of New Labour is for its timidity in taking away tax money from the individual, in order for the state to redistribute as it sees fit.

This leaves us with the notion that the Liberal Democrats must resist too much co-operation with Labour in the name of electoral choice. Well, I am all for more parties, and for electoral reform. But it does occur to me that many voters want to see precisely the kind of political organisation that might embrace both Mr Blair and Mr Ashdown, and that is big enough to permit the use of talents as diverse as

Chris Patten and Roy Jenkins. Now what would that be called? Oh yes; the realignment of British politics. And it's a bit hard to tell us now that it was all an elaborate hoax, designed to absorb the Social Democratic Party and to win a few extra votes for oldQUOTE OF THE DAY

"It's due to Oscar Wilde that today we can celebrate a society that generally appreciates diversity." Stephen Fry. actor and writer

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"In our ideals we unwittingly reveal our vices." Jean Rostand, French biologist



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ible voter in today's election to cast a ballot. Even in ridings where there is little doubt as to which candidate will win, each vote counts. That's because granted. the total number of votes re-Montreal Gazette. Canada ceived by each of the parties province-wide will provide a LIBERAL PARTY leader gauge of the relative strengths

IT IS important for every elig-erendum on Quebec's future. Democracy is one of our most precious assets in Canada. And voting is a privilege that should be exercised, not taken for

Charest stands firm on the fact that another referendum is something to be avoided. popular vote could therefore be Bouchard of the sovereignist come a significant factor in Parti Quebecois is keen to hold the event there is a future ref-

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North American verdicts on the provincial government elections in Quebec, Canada

create a smokescreen by claiming that it is to promote the negotiation of Canada's social union. But the PQ has no intention of resurrecting feder-

give their support to Charest. He merits the confidence of all those Quebecois who are opposed to the menace that another referendum would bring. alism. The electorate has to La Tribune, Canada

separatist sword of Damocles cers return a separatist govover Canada's head for much of the past 30 years. Twenty-two tainty. If Bouchard wins, Queness and goodwill from their province. Chicago Tribune, US

ernment to office, it could set the stage for a snap referenmillion other Canadians are dum. Remember how pertired of the dance of uncer- ilously close this country came to being thrown into turmoil becers should think hard about during the last referendum. If whether to give him the room the separatists must win today he needs to hold another ref- let them face the largest federendum, which could drive eralist turnout possible. It's more English speakers, busi- not only the government that's at stake. It could be the future of this country.

Ottowa Sun, Canada

QUEBEC HAS been holding a IF MORE than half of Quebe-

THE TUESDAY REVIEW

PANDORA

A FETCHING press release with both the Lords emblem and the Stringfellows logo has arrived on Pandora's desk. This unlikely union has sprung from the innovative loins of the Conservative hereditary peer and poker player Lord Bethell. Bethell announces that Stringfellows is the venue for an evening reception of London's Conservative candidates for the European Parliament this week. The event will feature as guest of honeur Lord Archer, "who will speak and auction a number of items for party funds". Pandora hopes, given the venue, that these are appropriate items for political fundraising. Certainly the description of the evening in the release leaves little to the imagination. Of Stringfellows it boasts: "Where better can the businessman, alone in the strange city, relax and enjoy himself after a difficult day spent on insurance and banking, or otherwise up the financial sharp end?"

AT FIRST glance the announcement by the National Archives in the US that some more historical documents have been released may not seem to thrilling. But the latest batch is an exception. Amongst the treasures being aired on 18 December are a map of the California gold fields, the arrest warrant for Lee Harvey Oswald and - the cherry on the cake – a letter from **Elvis Presley to President** Nixon asking to be appointed a federal agentat-large. Well, the King may never have made it as an agent, but be certainly made it to being large.

AS PANDORA anticipated (in June) a new book about the Sports Minister and House of Commons jester Tony Banks has been published. The Wit and Wisdom of Tony Banks: A Tribute to a Parliamentary Career, written by Iain Dale and published by Robson books, is now available. But despite the deliberately affectionate title, Pandora has heard mutterings that Banks is not amused by the book. Banks appears to be trying to shed his jokey image to portray a more serious side. specially in view of the race to be Labour's candidate for London's mayor. Pandora contacted Banks's office for a comment on the book, but there was no response. Meanwhile. Pandora would like to remind readers why Banks is such a valuable asset to Parliament, with selected Banksisms such as this one: "I

don't care

whether I'm a

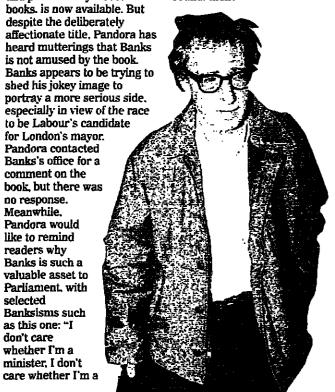
minister, I don't

Member of Parliament. I'll do my job to the best of my ability... I don't think I'm in any way pompous because, in the end. I don't give a toss." Loud and clear Tony, and Pandora is sure that readers will enjoy being reminded of how funny you are, at least until we get a call to say otherwise.

THE US release of Woody Allen's latest film, Celebrity. has given the cult auteur a platform to pass his own judgement on the rich and famous. Allen (pictured), who says that he can live with the downside of fame by avoiding TV shows and honorary degree shows at universities, gives some in the public eye the benefit of the doubt. On Rupert Murdoch, Allen comments: "I hear that he is a charming man from people that know him, and I'm sure if I met him, I might be seduced by him or find him a charming man." he tells the latest issue of the New York Observer, "But you know I'm not a fan of the tabloids, either on TV or print journals."

PRESIDENT CLINTON has once again come under scrutiny for his personal habits, this time over what he eats. The Washington Post published the Clinton menu for Thanksgiving last week, with almost as many entries at the Starr report. At Camp David, Bill, Hillary and Chelsea tucked into a starter of corn chowder, followed by turkey stuffed with cornbread dressing, roasted prime rib with horseradish cream, maple-glazed sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, chilled asparagus, cranberry sauce, corn, squash and three kinds of pie: apple, pecan and pumpkin.

Meanwhile, Downing Street has assured Pandora that there will be "nothing unusual" about the Blair's Christmas meal at Chequers this year. Cappuccino all round. then?



There's no poetry in bookselling

THERE WILL probably be disagreement among historians of the future as to when exactly late-20thcentury book publishing finally gave up any pretence to cultural seriousness and queasily embraced the values of the pop music business or estate agency. The disappearance of medium-sized independent houses into the maw of media multinationals during the Eighties will be seen as one key moment; the more recent abandonment of price control on books, tightening the stranglehold on the industry of giant bookselling chains and publishing conglomerates, another. A significant footnote in the story may be the court case in which the American publisher, Random House, ingloriously attempted to wriggle out of an embarrassing, expensive contract with their successful author of trash. Joan Collins, on the grounds that her latest book was trash.

Then, at some point, the historians will cast their eyes upon the university presses. They will find that here the criticism is more muted not because these institutions are more efficient than their commercial colleagues (far from it), but be-



TERENCE BLACKER

Editors, in their terror of bullying accountants. have chosen to forget to nurture today's writers

cause a certain aura of seriousness still attends academic publishing. Presses that are answerable to a university rather than to shareholders are regarded as inherently more serious, and less vulgarly concerned with financial matters.

There is also, of course, the fact that university presses wield astonishing power. The vast majority of authors who write for them have desperate need of academics to sustain their careers by getting published, these people are a publisher's dream; unworldly compliant and doggily grateful that their work will appear in print, however badly they are treated.

In the past, this imbalance of power between publisher and author caused occasional acts of malpractice (not by chance did Robert Maxwell make his fortune in this area), and a general meanness towards authors, which only occasionally came to light. Now the game has become more complicated and somewhat seedier

The astonishing, shaming decision of the Oxford University Press to dump, without appeal or exception, its highly respected poetry list has revealed that, while still claiming to be a special case when it suits them, university presses can act with all the crass shortsightedness and greed of their colleagues in the purely commercial sector. "The poetry list was making the marketing people face in a different direction from the way they are facing when they are promoting

no literary agents and, such is the the World's Classics series or The Oxford History of Nursing," was how an OUP suit attempted to explain the decision to The Independent's John Walsh.

That phrase, indeed the whole sorry saga, explains why modern publishing is now accorded so little respect. For as long as anyone can remember, the only direction that marketing people face is up the bottoms of their powerful bookselling customers.

Although publishers were never quite as virtuous and noble as they liked to pretend, it was generally accepted that, in a healthily run house, a balance would exist between the sales and the editorial sides. One attended to turnover and profit while the other created a list that occasionally involved risk in the name of future talent. A small proportion of the easy cash made from such series as the World's Classics would be ploughed back into more difficult areas of contemporary writing, such

As anyone who works in a university will testify, academics are hopeless with money and the new, fiscally responsible approach to

learning has left them floundering amid the balance sheets. But on this occasion they are in step with their colleagues in the large publishing conglomerates.

The trend there is towards quick and easy revenue carners, books whose appeal can be grasped without difficulty by even the most money-crazed marketing person. Rather than nurture real writers who, in the future, will (all right, may) repay them with work of significance, they prefer to throw money at any politician or resting actor whose literary effort, however lame, will be relatively simple to promote. Editors, in their terror of bullying accountants, have chosen to forget that if they do not nurture today's writers, daring even to lose money over a book or two in the early stages of his or her career, they will become increasingly, disastrously dependent on the tried and tested, on passing fashion.

The refusal of academics to hold the line against commercialism is publishing's own trahison des clercs. Oxford University Press finds itself on the cutting edge of contemporary style culture.

Will Mr Straw join the pantheon of our heroes in Latin America?

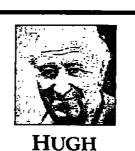
"LET HUMBLE Albion, with an awkward shame/Do good by stealth, and blush to find it fame.

The (slightly doctored) lines of Alexander Pope in his aptly named Work To Augustus are a better text than most for the Home Secretary to ponder as he settles down this week to decide the future of Pinochet. They could remind him that, if he comes to the right decision and sends the baby-torturer of Santiago to a well deserved trial in Spain, he would join the large group of people from these islands who have, knowingly or unknowingly, done a great deal for the cause of decency in Latin America.

One can of course get excessively lyrical and overestimate the extent to which Britain has aided the course of independence, peace and democracy in the region. I will never forget the shame that I felt a few years ago as I sat in Chatham House among a group that was made up predominantly of businessmen who had gathered to hear an Argentine Hoz. He was, if I remember correctly, an Old Etonian.

At that time Argentina was in the hands of a pitiless gang of military tyrants who were throwing their political prisoners to their deaths from aircraft over the South Atlantic and doing vile things to their citizens that possibly, just possibly, might have made even Pinochet blanch. I asked the speaker a mild-mannered question about human rights in Argentina and was treated by him to a defence of torture, at the end of which the British businessmen and bankers broke into spontaneous

And many people are too lyrical about Britain's role in Latin America. Innumerable are the dinners I have attended in Bogota or Caracas or Mexico which have been drawn to a somnolent conclusion by an



O'SHAUGHNESSY

Now Pinochet's spell has been broken by the British, as Galtieri's was by the Falklands war

address from the British ambassador dwelling on the glorious contribution of British troops to the emergence of the republics from the imperial grasp of Spain two centuries ago. After all, is it not the case that to this day and in recognition of minister by the name of Martinez de their support of Simon Bolivar, the liberator, British troops may parade through the streets of Venezuela under arms and with drums beating and colours flying?

British diplomats tend to lay less emphasis on the fact that after the wars against Napoleon ended and he was packed off safely to St Helena a host - or, perhaps better, a horde - of desperate British ex-servicemen of all ranks who were facing destitution at home swarmed across the Atlantic to seek their fortunes in battles between what they must have considered as one sort of dago and another.

Never mind, Latin America was helped to independence by British soldiers, and that independence was thereafter guaranteed by British sailors. And, much more recently, the British response to the invasion of the Falkland Islands

by the drunken General Leopoldo Galtieri ended up by bringing a good measure of democracy back to Argentina. The defeat of the Argentines by British forces was from the first a foregone conclusion if only these forces could be landed on the islands.

The wretched, untrained Argentine garrison in the Falklands, comprising as it did untrained men whose equipment and rations had been stolen by their officers, was shown after the war to have been the victims more of its own side than of the fury of an outraged Margaret Thatcher. The unconscionable bungling of the Argentine generals meant they were tossed out by popular fury in Argentina the year after the British returned to Stanley to be replaced after fair elections by a civil-

ian president Raul Alfonsin. keep the Falklands Islands from As we munched sandwiches in the Argentina unless and until the corridors many of the staff, and Falklanders themselves decide to notably the military personnel, throw in their lot with their neigh- drank toasts and whooped with bours over the water to the west is delight at the overthrow of the leftserving to exercise a moderating influence on Argentine leaders. Did we hear President Menem last month repeating in London his preelection claim that he would take back the Falklands if necessary by fire and sword, an operation that could not be undertaken without vast new investment in the Argentine military and its political rehabilitation? No, thank God, we did not.

Now, with a certain amount of awkward shame, the same phenomenon is happening in Chile. It is, on the face of it, a surprising development. I spent much of Tuesday 11 September 1973 in the British embassy in Santiago. I had gone there that morning with my friend, Stewart Russell, of Reuters, on a



General Galtieri, centre, and senior officers in 1982

To this day the British resolve to munications with the outside world. country. The majority were opposed wing president, Salvador Allende. and the arrival of the smack of firm government in uniform.

This was the first day of 17 years of horror for the Chileans. Worse, it was the day when the Chilean body politic underwent a lobotomy which was not reversed until the House of Lords gave its historic verdict against Pinochet last week.

From 1973 the Chileans have been, as I saw most recently in Chile in September, in a mental daze. There were indeed noisy demonstrations before the television cameras by rich right-wing housewives most of whom banged in the cause of Pinochet the saucepans which they were unable to use with any skill themselves and which are routinely fruitless hunt for a way to send the cleaned by their ill-paid domestic story of Pinochet's putsch back to servants. However, these women London after his men had cut com- constituted a tiny minority of the

to Pinochet. But, lobotomised, they were incapable of throwing off their fear of another coup, either under Pinochet himself, until he surrendered command of the army in March this year, or under his successor - the handsome, rich and callous General Izurieta. After he laid his grey military cape aside Pinochet, immune from prosecution under a constitution that he wrote, took up the senatorial seat he had created for himself, one of a number which ensured that that the Congress was comprehensively emasculated.

Now Pinochet's spell has been broken by the British, as Galtieri's was in 1982, and things will never be the same again. The Chileans may recover from their lobotomy and, as my friend the Chilean foreign minister has suggested, put the man on trial themselves. Humble Albion might not have set out with that in mind. But it has happened. As the Lady said in 1982: "Rejoice,

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We are the land of Lara Croft

I WANT to begin by stating a principle which was expressed in typically provocative terms by Professor John Kay a few years ago. Kay remarked: "The focus of industrial policy should not be on what we do worse than other people, but on what we do better."

Kay gives many examples of areas in which national competitive advantage seems to have been built - fitted kitchens in Germany, financial services in London and Manhattan, automobiles in Japan, the knitwear producers and shoemakers of Italy – and asks why this has been the case. The most important reason is the opportunity which clusters of firms provide, once a critical mass has been established, for the growth and transfer of skills and knowledge within the sector. "It is on success in creating the networks which facilitate these exchanges that many competitive advantages in today's world depend." Kay

concludes. The competitive strength of each firm within the network derives from the knowledge and have access. Some as-

pects of the knowledge base relevant to a particular activity are, of course, specific to that activity, but many are not, and the most important of such non-specific skill bases lies in scientific and technical The levels of scientific educ-

ation and achievement in British universities are as high as any in the world and this is reflected in the success of British firms in industries which depend on élite science. such as pharmaceuticals, defence electronics, biotechnology and computer software. In these areas, once the product is designed, it has for practical purposes been made. Where, by contrast, countries such as Germany and Japan stand out. is in the technical capabilities of workers further down the ability spectrum. The first thing we need, therefore, in designing policies to enhance competitiveness, is to have a clear idea where our competitive advantages lie. We can then build upon them.

The problem with industrial policies in the past is that they have pursued the opposite of base to which all contribute Kay's dictum. British industrial policy was based not on pick-



PODIUM **DAVID SAINSBURY**

From a speech by Lord Sainsbury of Turville, the Minister for

Science, to the Social Market Foundation

ing winners, but, perversely, on picking losers. Losers that we would have liked to be winners. Attempts to revive British Leyland, for example, through state intervention turned out to be a sorry failure, and predictably so.

But while we should not seek to pick winners, we at the DTI should be vitally concerned to back successful British companies.

The list of Britain's leading

sectors is not particularly contivity is useful here, in showing maceuticals. telecommunications, hydrocarbons, biotechnology, electrical engineering, computer software, financial services - all unequivocally knowledgeintensive activities.

technology transfer, but we and optical fibres. have, in fact, been good at the transfer of elite science to the pharmaceutical, aerospace and biotechnology industries. In many of these new industries we have a strong position in world markets - an advantage we must be careful not to throw away.

For too many people, Britain has a proud heritage. We invented the steam engine, the to "the knowledge economy" jet engine, the Hovercraft. The names of Newton, Darwin, and Faraday are known worldwide. Our promotional activities tend to cement this view by plumping for the safe option Stephenson's Rocket rather than the Psion Organizer.

We need instead to build up knowledge among trading partners of contemporary British hi-tech achievements. The Millennium Products ac-

troversial. They include pharthat the UK is still at the cutchemicals, ting edge of design and technology. We need to show that Britain is the home of Crick, Hawking and Dyson, of worldbeating, hi-tech companies such as Oxford Instruments, BP and Glaxo-Wellcome, and of It is too often said that we break-out discoveries such as are not good in this country at Dolly, monoclonal antibodies

I want people when they think of this country to think of such scientific achievements as Thrust, the first supersonic car, rather than Stephenson or I want "Lara Croft" of

Eidos's Tomb Raider computer game to be an ambassador for British scientific excellence.

With other themes relating education, competition policy, infrastructure - the approach does indeed represent a "third way" industrial policy, one in which government assumes an enabling rather than a directive role.

A government not blinded by the white heat of technology, or interested in picking winners, but concerned with a competitive framework.

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HAMISH **MCRAE**

There is no powerful economic argument against Scotland going for full independence

ST ANDREW'S Day, and Scotland chooses the English Queen to open the new Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh, the building that at last gives the country a single place where it can house the treasures that define its past national identity: from the Penicuik Jewels to an 1806 Newcomen beam engine.

It is coincidence, but the opening happens amidst a turmoil of questions about the definition of Scotland's future identity. Down in London the creation of the Scottish assembly is seen in party political terms: is whatever is happening good, bad or indifferent for the Labour party? But as anyone who has spent much time across the Border this autumn will know, in Scotland it is a time of wonder and worry: is something seismic starting to happen, something as important as the union of the two parliaments in 1707, that will lead to an independent Scotland on the model (more or less) of the Republic of Ireland?

Unsurprisingly, much of the current debate has been about money - as indeed was the debate in 1707 but about money in a curiously static way. The viability of an independent Scotland has been dissected in terms of the amount of money that Scotland receives in public spending from the UK as a whole, and the amount it raises in tax. Thus Donald Dewar in a lecture a couple of weeks ago dwelt on the costs of a break-up of the union, of "reinventing in Scotland everything from Customs and Excise to the Intervention Board for Agricultural Produce, from the Benefits Agency to the Foreign Office, from National Insurance to the National Debt".

True, Mr Dewar went on to argue our of the union in pol terms as well - "Is there really a crying need for a separate seat at the UN?" - but in so far as the debate is about economics, it is about dividing up the cake, rather than making a bigger one.

The reason for this, I think, is simply that there are good figures for tax revenues and public spending for Scotland, so you can have a good, meaty debate rather than an airy-fairy one. Just a couple of weeks ago the Scottish Office published "Government Expenditure



The Queen yesterday examines a 15th-century harp reputedly played by Mary, Queen of Scots at the new Museum of Scotland

fited from more spending per head than the UK as a whole: it has 8.7 per cent of the UK population and gets 10.1 per cent of spending.

That amounts to a gap of £4bn, not allowing for North Sea oil. The calculations then depend a bit on the proportion of oil revenues ascribed to Scotland, but even if you were to give Scotland the lot, there would still be a gap. During the early Eighties Scotland was running a large fiscal surplus, but given the present price of oil, an Eighties-style

and Revenue in Scotland 1996-1997" bonanza looks decidedly unlikely. rower boundaries than their coundynamic one is surely more interesting, and more useful as a guide to the future. It falls into two parts. The first is whether, were Scotland

to be fully independent, it could use independence to fine-tune its tax system and to use public spending more appropriately. For example, could it not use tax incentives to attract foreign investment in the way Ireland has done? The Scottish bodies that encourage inward investment have done a good job, but they have to operate within narMeanwhile on the spending side.

surely a locally run civil service could extract a bigger bang for its bucks than a body that has to answer to the Treasury in London. Does Scotland need, in Donald Dewar's phrase, to "reinvent" its version of the Foreign Office? Well, yes - as Ireland has. But it would not necessarily feel the need, say, to maintain troops in Germany, or, for that matter, Northern Ireland. So there would be economies here, as well as some additional costs.

The second part of the dynamic Let's assume that an independent Scotland would be a couple of billion worse off in purely fiscal terms. The country's GDP is roughly £70bn. Assume 3 per cent growth and the country would be losing the equivalent of one year's growth - or rather, having to attribute all the growth of one year towards higher public spending. People would notice that, for they would feel a bit poorer as a result. But were Scotland to manage the growth rates of

Ireland through the Eighties it

would be equivalent to about four months' growth – in which case the loss would be hardly noticeable.

So the really interesting economic question - the one I find most intriguing - is whether Scotland might achieve the sort of "run for growth" that Ireland has achieved in recent years. I suppose I should at this stage disclose where I, as the Americans would say, am coming from: I am an Anglo-Scot, brought up mostly in the Republic of Ireland and educated in Edinburgh and Dublin, If you knew Ireland in the Fifties and Sixties, and know Scotland now, you can see many parallels. Might Scotland follow the experience of Ireland in the Fifties and Sixties and be an area of relative economic stagnation? Or might it become a European economic tiger, as Ireland is now?

Part of the answer must lie with the European Union, for it has been massive EU transfers that have jump-started Ireland's burst of growth. If you make transfers of up to 7 per cent of GDP into a country, year after year, it would be pretty odd were there not to be an economic boom. Those transfers will not go on for ever. But Ireland has other strengths: high levels of education, a strong, exportable culture, and a business-friendly tax environment for foreign business. Scotland already has the first two and could develop the third. It might also develop a more tax-friendly environment for indigenous business too: encouraging local businesses to expand, rather than new foreign ones to come in, has wisely become a new focus of policy in Scotland.

Scotland would not have the benefits of big EU transfers - at least not on Ireland's scale - nevertheless there is another reason to expect a modest economic improvement or at least no underperformance, were it to be independent. This is that small countries are no longer at an economic disadvantage to bigger ones.

The big argument for having a large country is economies of scale: a large country means a large market. But as world trade increases, it becomes possible for small countries to reap economies of scale too. EU membership automatically gives a country a much larger market, but even without it, small countries can prosper. Look at Switzerland (7 million) or Norway (4.4 million). If Quebec votes to go it alone (as it may well do) it would be fielding a population of 7.5 million. Go down to the size of Iceland or Barbados, both at a quarter of a million, and you probably do carry some penalty for being so tiny. But at 5 million Scotland would be a nor-

mal smaller nation. Should it therefore do the full Monty and go for complete independence? That surely is a decision for Scottish people, in Scotland, not for part-Scots living mostly in London. But what we can say is that there is no powerful economic argument against it, if that is indeed what the people want to do.

RIGHT OF REPLY

PAUL MAGEEAN

An officer of the Committee on the Administration of Justice responds to a leading article about torture

The United Nations Committee Against Torture (CAT) recently examined the record of the UK. The Independent said that to use the language of tor-ture in a UK or Northern Ireland context debased the currency of universal human

An obvious case of debasing human rights was heard in the Northern Ireland High Court earlier this year when David Adams was awarded £30,000 for injuries which the court found were inflicted by RUC officers at his arrest and in Castlereagh detention centre. Mr Adams's head was allegedly grabbed and pounded against the ground a number of times. He is said to have been subjected to continued beating during which his lung was punctured by one of the ribs that the police had broken. Allegedly the barrel of a rifle was driven into the back of his head, causing a severe laceration and in the detention centre, a number of officers took turns to perform running jumps directed at Mr Adams's left leg, which eventually broke. To date no officer has been disciplined, much less brought to trial.

Cases such as this illustrate the need for continued international vigilance by human rights mechanisms. While CAT did not find that the UK used torture as an instrument of policy, it did highlight the fact that regimes in detention centres create the conditions for ill-treatment. Hundreds of thousands of pounds have been paid in compensation for ill-treatment in the holding centres, yet none of the complaints made has ever been upheld. The Government refused

until this year to introduce silent video recording o interviews. Lawyers are still not permitted to attend the interviews, and audio recording, although promised, has still not been introduced. The courts in Northern Ireland and the House of Lords have found that the regime in the detention centres has been constructed to coerce suspects to speak. The supervision of human rights remains essential.

Reconciling town and country

A NODDING acquaintance with the lives of the many eminent contributors to this symposium reveals that they are less typecast by locality than the Countryside March might suggest. Here are anarchist ramblers from Suffolk hamlets and urban academics defending the hunt. Whatever other issues this book debates, it is not, mercifully, predicated on some mythic stand-off between ignorant townees and sagacious rural natives. As George Monbiot and Ian McEwan write in their different ways, the rural fabric of the nation is legally, morally and aesthetically a common inheritance - a refuge to which all our imaginations retreat. Monbiot argues further that rights of access and participation based on this principle would be the best possible way of recruiting legions of concerned guardians.

But that is the nub of the argument.



TUESDAY BOOK

TOWN AND COUNTRY EDITED BY ANTHONY BARNETT AND ROGER SCRUTON. JONATHAN CAPE, £12.99

matter of national heritage collapses when it comes to practical policy. So we have what has come to be called the crisis of the countryside: a network of social, economic and ecological problems. From the rural perspective, it is seen as a consequence of the "urban jackboot": collapsing farms, too much housing, too little housing, toxic food, a ruined landscape... One has only to begin this familiar

litany to realise there are two sides to most of the countryside's problems. Villages are losing their ancient Support for that idea as a vague lineages but would die if it were not

TUESDAY POEM

MY LIFE ASLEEP

BY JO SHAPCOTT

Everything is loud: the rasp of bed-sheets.

clamour of hair-tangles, clink of teeth.

Small sweat takes up residence in each crease

of the body, but breathing's even, herself warm,

room safe as a London room can be.

The tube rumbles only metres underneath

and planes for Heathrow circle on the roof.

You'll find the body and all the air it exhales

smellier than by day; she's kinder, more supple.

Bend close to catch the delicacies of sleep,

to hear skin tick, to taste the mandragora

of night sweat. Lean forward and put a finger

on the spot you think the dream is.

This poem comes from Jo Shapcott's new collection, 'My Life Asleep'

(Oxford University Press, £6.99)

for the loathed "incomers". The whole context of food, ecology and rural employment might have been different if only more farmers had asserted their own skills and said no to the agrochemical industry. The town isn't to blame but perhaps the City is. But which is the road out?

Town and Country is good on food, with an uplifting essay by Hugh Raven on the many new small-scale trading structures across the land. But one has only to read this, and the many other essays that touch on farming and its possible futures, to become aware of one huge omission. Nowhere does anyone define what the countryside is. Most assume it is where farming happens; or, more evasively, that you know it when you're there.

Can this really be true in the light of the immense changes documented by this book? Drive out of any town, past the golf courses, country parks, nature reserves, overgrown commons, smallholdings and paddocks. Do these form the new countryside, and should we be pleased? If not, what are of towns is the best thing in it, espethey? It matters not just because they are growing at the expense of farmland, but also because they offer which could be a 21st-century version up many new kinds of relationship between humans and nature.

Nature does not get much direct attention here. Without exception the contributors describe the countryside - and often nature itself - as an "artefact". It is a dated, anthropocentric view, rather like that of a Victorian parson who sees nature in need of redemption by mankind.



The myth of the country is debunked in 'Town and Country' The Mirror

now a congenial setting for more than just the light industry that Paul Hirst rightly urges as a replacement for agriculture. A whole new caste of villagers telecottagers, craftspeople, artists, smallholders - is beginning to use the landscape as thoroughly as farmers. And a place where a growing landscape is dwelt in and employed is one definition of countryside.

There is not much on the character of the village here, which is odd (what a boon John Berger would have been). But the debate about the future cially John Gummer's and Tim Mars's defences of "mixed development" of William Morris's wood-encircled

provocative in this book testifies to the diversity of life and opinion in both kinds of landscape. Colin Ward writes on the rich tradition of do-it-yourself building; and David Coffey (an urban vet) argues convincingly that the Natural or not, the countryside is turns all animals into human play- Britannica'

things. A marvellous piece by Libby Purves on "light pollution" turns into a plea for the importance of the numinous, as glimpsed in the night sky. And there's a good retelling of the rural myth that blames the miners' strike for BSE, as there wasn't enough energy about then to properly sterilise cannibalistic animal feed!

The editors' conclusions are fine pieces, too: Anthony Barnett on the interdependence of town and country; Roger Scruton (until he gets on his hunting horse) on the unique relationship of rural places with time. Yet in spite of its sprawling, intelligent coverage, something seems missing. Perhaps because of a nagging fear of the heinous crime of romanticisation, the countryside itself - that Much that is fine, constructive and protean, mythic but transcendentally materialist region that exerts such a hold over our consciousness - rarely shows its sensuous face from behind the statistics and theories.

RICHARD MABEY

entire edifice of veterinary welfare The writer is the author of Flora

Oxfam Hurricane Appeal

"Imagine your worst nightmare. Imagine waking up to something a hundred times worse."

 Daniel Alegria, Oxlam.
 Nicaragua, November 1998 That's how Hurricane Mitch felt to the people of Central America. Over 18,000 people are dead or missing. Millions of survivors are in desperate need.

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Captain Geoffrey Kirkby

uished wartime destroyer captain, as a natural leader and an specially skilled seaman, even in hat distinguished generation of estroyer captains. But though he as often the right man in the ight place - three awards of the Distinguished Service Cross in he times were not always right

He got off to a cracking start as in acting Sub-Lieutenant in 1939: when the war ended he was still an acting Lieutenant-Commander. He and had what is now often referred .o as a "good war", but when it ended so did many promising career prospects. That many of the deserving went no further than they did is often less a reflection on them and the fleet in which they served so well, than upon their times.

Kirkby was born in 1918 as one war was ending; when the next broke out he had just finished his Subs courses with distinction. He had joined the Navy from Taunton School in 1936, and as a midshipman, first saw sea service in the Mediterranean, in the old battleship Malaya. His prowess and promise were recognised by his appointment in 1939 to the new fleet destroyer Kingston, only launched that January. He was to serve in her until she was lost three years later.

Their short but ferocious association actively began in June 1940 and in the Red Sea, less than a fortnight after Italy decided to enter the war. Thanks to some excellent naval intelligence, which had already borne fruit, Kingston and her sister ships Kandahar and Khartoum were not surprised to encounter the Italian submarine Torricelli off Perim Island. Their attack was interrupted by an internal explosion in Khartoum - not due to any enemy action as is sometimes thought – but no less successful; Torricelli surrendered and Kirkby was sent across to seek her confidential books. The subma-

rine began to sink under him and he just got out of her conning tower in time. This effort brought his first DSC.

A year later Kirkby and his shin were involved in the evacuation first of Greece and then of Crete, when Kingston had the dubious distinction of operating north of the hree years speak for themselves - island where she was hit by a specialist German bomber squadron but earned the particular praise of the legendary Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham, then Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean Fleet.

Kingston then saw some service in the Eastern basin of the Mediterranean against the Vichy French before taking part in the Second Battle of Sirte in March 1942 when Rear-Admiral Philip Vian and his 15th Cruiser Squadron and four destroyers so nobly and notably put to flight a nominally far superior Italian force. Kirkby in Kingston got within three miles of the Italian battleship Littorio which retaliated with a 15-inch salvo, narrowly missing the destroyer and forcing her to retire to Malta. There she was sunk in dock by an air attack on 11 April, her hull ending up as a blockship These further efforts against Italy

brought Kirkby his second DSC. Kirkby then had an unusual and interesting attachment to the Long Range Desert Group, teaching them role off Omaha and Gold beaches in

proved Hunt class of light destroyers,



Kirkby went to the Far East in time for the liberation of Singapore and to become Staff Officer Operations to Flag Officer, Malaya, which reminded him of his first ship, and where he met the WRNS officer Daphne Spiller whom he married in 1946. He had three promising de-

stroyer commands which pleased him. He was a legendary ship handler: he was encouragingly promoted early to Commander in 1950 but his purely naval appointments were limited. Even so, his promotion to Captain came in December 1957.

After two years as naval adviser to Pakistan and nearly three as Director of Naval Equipment at Bath, he got his final seagoing command as Captain of the cruiser Tiger, which became an accommodation ship at Gibraltar for the fruitless discussions about Rhodesian sover-

eignty between Harold Wilson and Ian Smith in the autumn of 1966. Kirkby superintended the naval funeral of Viscount Cunningham, his wartime Commander-in-Chief, was appointed CBE and then, suddenly, it seemed to the many who had assumed that he would reach the Flag list, was retired early in 1967.

Geoffrey Kirkby later joined the administrative staff of the new Bath University, where his officer-like qualities were an example to his colleagues, though at times he may have sighed for the Naval Dis-

A. B. SAINSBURY

Geoffrey Kirkby, naval officer: born 26 August 1918; DSC 1940 and two bars 1942, 1944; CBE 1966; married 1946 Daphne Spiller (two doughters); died 24 October 1998. Woman with verse in her heart died Modrid 27 November 1998.

Gloria Fuertes

and write at the age of three, and as a teenager developed a taste for speaking in rhyming couplets. But it wasn't until her forties that she won recognition as a poet, and not until her sixties that she became the star of a daily television programme in which she told stories to children.

Behind that beaming grandmotherly face and gravelly lorrydriver's voice lay a complex Bohemian character formed in her early childhood. "I was a good girl and slender, tall and somewhat sickly. At nine I was hit by a cart and at 14 I was hit by the war."

Young Gloria used to cycle around Madrid in culottes, a divided skirt designed by her sister, wearing a tie. She bought books on the sly at the Cuesta de Moyano, a picturesque lane that slopes down beside the leafy Retiro park, lined with secondhand bookstalls. She would hide in the cubby-hole where her father worked as a doorman or portero to read and write without her mother's knowledge. "My father loved to read. he read the classics and mystical works, the lives of the saints," she recalled in her old age.

At 15 this sensitive soul lost her mother, who had tried in vain to steer her daughter towards a career in dressmaking. She worked as a typist and office secretary and in 1939 at the end of the Spanish Civil War began an association with a children's magazine, Maravillas, in which Fuertes created her first character, Coleta, a country girl who moves to the city to work as a nanny. She explained in her last interview:

As a child I learned to write as soon as I could so that I could write down every-thing that occurred to me. I'm doing something else and a sentence comes to me. I write it down and then I look at it. A seed has sprouted. I write every day, me and that's it.

Towards the end of the 1940s, Fuertes joined a literary tertulia or



GLORIA FUERTES learned to read discussion group called Postismo, a post-war movement tinged with Surrealism among whose heroes was Max Ernst. In 1950 her first book of poems, La Isla Ignorada ("The Unknown Island"), was published, al-though she had written the title work 11 years earlier. In 1952 Canciónes para Niños ("Songs for Children") appeared, and in 1954 Antología y poemas del suburbio ("Anthology and Poems from the Suburb").

Only half her work was directed to children. In the rest, according to Spain's Nobel prizewinner Camilo José Cela, "Gloria Fuertes howled like a wolf mortally wounded. Her verses are full of grief and pain, healing and humane, bitterly sober and maliciously playful."

By 1960 she was running a public library, and won a Fulbright scholarship that took her to the United States where she taught Spanish Literature at Bucknell University in Pennsylvania until 1963. In 1962 another anthology. Que estás en mi Tierra ("You Are In My Land") appeared.

Back in Spain she started working in children's television, including the programme that made her name in the 1970s, Un Globo, Dos Globos, Tres Globos, ("One Balloon, Two Balloons, Three Balloons") in which every weekday afternoon for four years she told tales and recited poems to rapt young audiences.

Among her works for adults are Poeta de guardia ("Poet on Watch"), Sola en la sala ("Alone in the Room"), Historia de Gloria ("Story of Glory" - or Gloria), the anthology Obras Incompletas ("Incomplete Works") and her most recent work, Mujer de verso en pecho ("Woman with Verse in her Heart").

Fuertes felt things improved for her as she got older. "For me all time past was worse and the good thing about the past is that it has passed." She was, none the less, of a happy disposition, and was surprised by the depression that engulfed her when - a dedicated chainsmoker - she was diagnosed two months ago as suffering from lung cancer.

Some of her couplets hint at inner torment: "If God values a tear more than a prayer, I'll have a throne in heaven". But her dark thoughts were lifted by irony: "I triumphed with my poetry but I wasn't present at my triumph. If I've something better to do, I won't attend my funeral either."

ELIZABETH NASH

Gloria Fuertes, poet and storyteller: born Modrid 28 July 1918;

Richardson was one of the post-war 'legends of light music'

Clive Richardson

LIGHT MUSIC is a much maligned area of popular music, difficult to classify and frequently hard to find in the record catalogues or on modern radio stations. Yet for some 30 years this was the music that filled the media, at the cinema, on record and over the airwaves - indeed, the BBC had an entire radio station named after it.

of 1943. He saw intense service in the

Channel and the Western Approach-

es, the ship sinking five E-boats and

six coasters before taking an inshore

earned for spirited interference with

When Kirkby went on board the

surrendered Italian submarine Torricelli

she began to sink under him; he just got

out of her conning tower in time

celestial navigation before coming June 1944; Kirkby was mentioned in

home to join Melbreak, one of the im- despatches. His third DSC was

of which he found himself in com- German efforts to evacuate Le Havre,

mand at the age of 24 in the summer harrying them as far as Dieppe.

Clive Richardson was the last of the pioneers of light music. With dozens of lively descriptive works like "Beachcomber", "Locomotion", and "Holiday Spirit", he laid down the blueprint for a style of music that influenced a generation of composers.

Born in Paris (for reasons that remain a little hazy) to English parents in 1909, the young Clive was educated at Harrow School and despite showing prodigious talent in matters musical from an early age began training to become a doctor. Wisely switching to music, he enrolled at the Royal Academy of Music, where he studied a variety of instruments, including piano, and took conducting tuition from Sir Henry Wood and composition with Norman O'Neil He swiftly achieved his LRAM and ultimately became a fully fledged Associate (ARAM) which remained a source of great pride to him.

Through the early 1930s he freelanced as an arranger, working on

André Charlot revues such as Please (1933), starring Beatrice Lillie, and Spread it Abroad (1936), the show that introduced "A Nightingale sang in Berkeley Square", sung by Dorothy Dickson. He also toured as one of the pianists in "Harold Ramsay's Six-Piano Symphony" and perhaps more rewardingly as accompanist/ arranger for the cabaret star Hildegarde (singer of "Darling je vous aime beaucoup"), travelling with her across Europe and America.

In 1937 he joined the Gaumont British Film Company at Lime Grove, and under the musical director Louis Levy he composed and orchestrated sections of some 100 films, in collaboration with such future greats of the light-music world as Charles ("Dick Barton") Williams, Jack ("Picture Parade") Beaver and Hubert ("Cornish Rhapsody") Bath. Seldom was a complete score composed by one person and invariably Levy took sole screen credit. (Happily research is now in hand to identify who did what).

Richardson was certainly involved in numerous Jack Hulbert and Will Hay comedies and may well have had a hand in Hitchcock's The Lady Vanishes (1933) and Nicholas Brodszky's score for French With-

At the outbreak of war he imme-

diately ceased all musical activities. Already an officer in the Territorial Reserve, he was posted to a succession of Ack-Ack Battalions and served in Coventry, Manchester and Birmingham. His experiences of the bombing in these cities and both the horrors and courage that he witnessed were the inspiration for his London Fantasia, a short concert work in the spirit of Richard Addinsell's Warsaw Concerto Dangerous Moonlight, 1941), and it proved to be Richardson's first popular hit (the recording with the composer at the piano accompanied by the Columbia Light Symphony orchestra conducted by Charles

Also around this time he teamed up with fellow planist Tony Lowry (former arranger with Henry Hall's dance band) to form the duo "Lowry and Richardson - Four Hands in Harmony", an unexpectedly successful turn that toured the stillflourishing variety circuits. They made several film appearances in-cluding My Ain Folk (1944) and later a series of Rank fillers, For Your Entertainment (1952) featuring a performance in what must have been the tiniest studio on the lot. Two grand pianos and a troupe of dancing girls alarmingly fill the screen almost to bursting point.

Williams was a best seller in 1945/46).

The immediate post-war period saw Richardson at his most productive. In addition to the performing he was invited to work on the ITMA (It's That Man Again) radio series which featured a weekly orchestral interlude, performed by the Variety Orchestra conducted by Charles Shadwell. Uncopyrighted popular melodies, folk songs and nursery rhymes were the order of the day, and Richardson's inventive and lively new interpretations proved to be a great success. Rediscovered a few years ago in the BBC vaults, many of them were freshly recorded by the BBC Concert Orchestra and played as the centrepiece to the recent nostalgia series Legends of Light Music; they

stand up well to this day. Meanwhile, in the musicpublishing world, several major companies began recording works on their own labels, to provide prepackaged music to the film, radio and soon-to-be television industries. Chappell, Francis Day and Hunter and Boosey and Hawkes began commissioning mood music compositions from Richardson. The post-war boom in light music had begun.

Among dozens of gems a handful of classics are still fondly remembered by music enthusiasts of a certain age. "Holiday Spirit", for November 1998.

example, composed for the Chappell's library became the theme of BBC television's Childrens Newsreel, "Tom Marches On" (for Paxton publishers) was the closing march in ITMA. "The Shadow Waltz" (by a pseudonymous "Paul Dubois") became the theme to the Francis Durbridge television series, remade as the feature film Portrait of Alison (1954), while "Melody on the Move" gave its title and theme song to a long-running music radio series of the 1940s.

Continuing to write into the 1960s and 1970s Richardson freely acknowledged that the call for music in his style was limited in an era of pop, and he was delighted when the Chandos library recently commissioned him to compose material for a new nostalgia CD.

In 1988 he recieved a token of recognition from his peers when the British Association of Songwriters Composers and Authors awarded him their Gold Medal for services to the world of music, a belated acknowledgement of his exceptional work in the field of light music.

ALEXANDER GLEASON

Clive Richardson, composer: born Paris 23 June 1909; twice married (one daughter); died London 11

Canon Peter Boulton

PETER BOULTON was a distinguished Anglican priest, a prominent member of the General Synod and for 10 years Prolocutor (Chairman) of the Convocation of York. He was powerful among the High Church group who were unhappy at the suggestions for new ecumenical relations made by Archbishop Michael Ramsey and his successors.

Boulton conscientiously devoted his clear mind to debate in public his understanding of the catholicity of the Church of England. In the General Synod he was a frequent and courteous speaker. He attended the World Council of Churches at Nairobi and Anglican Consultative Council. He edited with Bishop Graham Leonard papers which critically assessed the efforts of the archbishops to draw closer to other churches.

He was also a hardworking parish priest in the Midlands and for 20 years vicar of Worksop. He restored the Priory Church, maintained a team able to care for his parishioners during his inevitable absences and was chairman of the Bassetiaw Council for Voluntary Services which he founded.

He promoted Church schools and youth clubs, became Diocesan Director of Education and Canon Residentiary of Southwell Minster. In 1991 his abilities were recognised by his appointment as Chaplain to the Queen and, after his retirement in 1992, he acted as chaplain to the Conferences of the Canon Law Society.

His small figure and booded eyes seemed to be an essential part of central Church committees where he was valued as a leading member

of the clergy in the Northern Province. He remained to the end in one of his own phrases "deeply devoted to the mission of the Church in this country".

Boulton was born in 1925 and educated at Pickering, St Chad's College, Durham, and Ely Theological College. He served in the Navy during the Second World War, and was ordained in 1950 to serve in the Tractarian parish of Coppenhall in Crewe, the town to which he eventually retired. In 1967 he began his notable ministry at Worksop Priory from which he also did his central

church planning and work. At Worksop he carried out a major restoration of the fabric of the church and was meticulous in maintaining traditional worship. He developed the Church schools, youth clubs, housing associations and other voluntary services in the town. He encouraged local authority welfare services and voluntary bodies to work together for the good of the community. Some in Worksop grieved that this able, caring man felt he had to spend so much time on ecclesiastical planning and committees in London.

In a notable debate in General Synod in 1987 he urged the Church to devote itself to the "improvement and development of the Welfare State . . It has Christian roots". He electrified the Synod by describing how the families of striking miners were forced to exist on £6.15 a week "by a vindic tive administration supporting a hardfaced NCB". He was alert to social injustice in his Midlands industrial parishes and was prepared to come down off the fence in denouncing



Alert to social injustice

them, claiming he spoke "for the ordinary people of this land . . . very much sheep without a shepherd."

His last years were saddened by

the rift he allowed to develop be-

women prepared to serve the Church. He was voted out of the Chair of Prolocutor of the York Convocation in 1990. He did not warm to the majority in the Church of England and other churches who believed that the bar to the ordination

of women should now be lifted. He found it easier to develop his thinking about society than he did to develop his understanding of the theology of priesthood. It was a surprise that only four years after the ordinations began in 1994 no less than 2,000 women had answered their vocation to be ordained, many serving in the most demanding parishes.

His memory is cherished by many who did not share his views but who respected this hardworking servant of Church and society. Char-

tween his thinking and that of acteristically during his retirement, he set out to gather another degree – in Canon Law.

ALAN WEBSTER

Peter Henry Boulton, priest: born 12 December 1925; ordained deacon 1950, priest 1951; Assistant Curate, Coppenhall St Michael, Crewe 1950-54. St Mark Mansfield 1954-55; Vicar, Clipstone Colliery Village, Nottinghamshire 1955-60, St John the Baptist, Carlton 1960-67, Worksop Priory 1967-87: Honorary Canon of Southwell 1975-87; Canon Residentiary of Southwell Minster and Diocesan Director of Education 1987-92 (Emeritus), Prolocutor of York Convocation 1980-90; Chaplain to the Queen 1991-95; married 1955 Barbara Davies (three sons); died Crewe, Cheshire 17 November 1998.

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J. D. Sumner

ALTHOUGH ELVIS Presley was the King of Rock'n Roll, he was also a leading gospel singer and he won Grammys for his sacred-recordings. He was friendly with many gospel musicians and he worked for several years with J.D. Sumner, the deep voice who can be heard prominently on Elvis's posthumous chart-topper, "Way Down". Elvis said on several occasions that Sumner was his favourite gospel singer and when they were together, it was Elvis who was in awe of him.

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John Daniel Sumner, nicknamed Jim Dandy or J.D., was born in Lakeland. Florida in 1924. Like so many Southern singers of his generation, he sang in church from an early age, and when his voice broke he became the bass singer with the Sunshine Boys. They often worked in Memphis where Sumner befriended the young Elvis Presley, sneaking him into the concerts when Elvis could not afford the 50 cents admission.

The white gospel music of the day was akin to country music crossed with barbershop quartets. Most of the acts were male quartets featuring four-part harmonies. In 1954 a leading gospel group based in Memphis, the Blackwood Brothers Quartet, lost two members in a plane crash and Sumner joined the group as their bass singer. Elvis had thoughts of joining the group himself and, in 1955, shortly after making his first records, he appeared in a gospel con-

In 1956 the Blackwood Brothers Quartet found national acclaim when they won Arthur Godfrey's television talent show. They were the favourite group of Gladys Presley, Elvis's mother, and they sang at her funeral in 1958. Said Sumner: "I have never seen a man suffer as much or grieve as much as he did at the loss of his mother."

In 1963 James Blackwood purchased a gospel music publishing company from Frank Stamps. The deal included the brand name, the Stamps Quartet, and Sumner developed this, transforming a little-known group into one of America's leading white gospel groups. He also formed the National Quartet Convention, which became the biggest event on the Southern gospel calendar.

Elvis Presley had used a former gospel group, the Jordanaires, on many of his hit recordings. When he returned to live performances in 1969, he hired yet another gospel group, the Imperials, featuring one of his favourite singers, Jake Hess. They left in 1971 following a dispute over pay with Elvis's manager, Colonel Tom Parker.

By 1971, Sumner had had enough success to write his autobiography, Gospel Music Is My Life. In it he wrote, "Gospel music was designed by Christian people as a means of reaching the lost. I wouldn't be on the road as much as I am, staying away from my family, if it we can inspire people to live better lives, we've performed a ministry."



مكذا من الاحل

Sumner (right) backstage with Elvis in Las Vegas in 1974; he was Elvis's favourite gospel singer

Because of his various commitments, Sumner was managing, rather than singing with, the Stamps. He was also a notable gospel songwriter and among his compositions are "The Old Country Church", "Crossing Chilly Jordan", "He Means All The World To Me", "Inside The Gate" and "Lord, Teach Me How To Pray". He had a sense of fun and amused audiences with his impression of "the Gooney Bird". Because he was tall (six foot five) and dignified, it was doubly funny to see him running around on stage, and he even released an album of his comedy routines.

death in August 1977 and Sumner's voice can be heard on many recordings including the gospel songs "Help Me" and "Why Me, Lord". On stage, Elvis would liken Sumner's voice to a B-52 bomber - and that was a compliment. He looked distinctive with his grey hair and hand cupped over his ear as though he were receiving personal messages from the Saviour. Time and again, Elvis would ask him to repeat low notes.

Elvis relaxed by singing gospel favourites and, fortunately, an impromptu jam session with the Stamps was recorded in 1972. At the end of

Gospel music is a means of reaching the lost. If we can inspire people to live better lives, we've performed a ministry'

Elvis heard a record by the Stamps, liked it very much, and invited the group to join him on stage – if Sumner was singing with them. "I want your '56 endings," he told him. By this, he meant the way that Sumner would run down the scale and bottom out on the lowest note he could hit.

The Stamps worked for Elvis until his diamond ring.

"Nearer My God To Thee", Elvis says, "I was singing bass, but J.D. covered me

up. He wiped me out." After Elvis's death, Sumner often gave interviews and spoke at Presley conventions. He always stressed the positive side of Presley's personality and never admitted that Elvis took anything Sumner agreed and the Stamps other than prescription drugs. He ac- John Daniel Sumner. singer: born regular bass singer, Richard Ster- and indeed. Elvis gave him a Lincoln au-

Shortly after Elvis's death, Sumner and the Stamps released a tribute album, Elvis Has Left The Building (1977), and there were two further albums, Elvis's Favourite Gospel Songs (1977) and Memories Of Our Friend Elvis (1978). They were nominated for Grammy awards with the albums Victory Road (1990) and Peace In The Valley (1991) and they were featured on Tammy Wynette's final album, Inspirational Favourites (1998).

The group's only UK appearance came when they opened for Jerry Lee Lewis in 1980. They were booked for Elvis In Concert at Wembley Arena in January 1999 in which Elvis's backing musicians and singers will accompany a video of Elvis singing. Elvis, naturally, is irreplaceable but so is Sumner; few singers can hit the lowest G on the piano. He is included in The Guinness Book of Records as the world's lowest bass singer.

Sumner was inducted into the Gospel Hall of Fame as an individual in 1983 and with the Stamps earlier this year. He died while he was touring. As he said in his autobiography, "Gospel music is more than standing on a stage or a way to make a living. Gospel music is my life."

SPENCER LEIGH

Quartet joined Elvis in November 1971. knowledged his employer's generosity Lakeland, Florida 19 November 1924: married (two daughters); died ban, soon left to join the Oak Ridge Boys. tomobile, a silver watch and a \$40.000 Myrtle Beach. South Carolina 15 November 1998.

HISTORICAL NOTES

MICHAEL CUMMING

A bombing system born of daydreams

bombs, underwater launching and infra-red homing devices - what would the boys in RAF Bomber Command have made of all these mind-boggling goodies when making their way to their designated targets in the dark days and darker nights of the Second World War? To those flyers, perhaps more than to most people today, post-war inventive genius is beyond belief.

Much has been made of the implementation and the results of the so-called "area bombing" when huge areas were laid to waste in massive air raids on German cities, carried out with a not insignificant loss of life by the heavy bombers in Air Chief Marshal Sir Arthur Harris's command, each plane with six or seven men aboard. Was it necessary, this loss of life in the air, this destruction and slaughter on the ground?

Even now the arguments rage, but there is one dimension which is only now being considered with the emergence of more information about Oboe, the groundcontrolled, blind-bombing system which was developed by scientists at the Telecommunications Research Establishment - originally based at Worth Matravers near Swanage and subsequently

at Malvern Oboe was the brainchild of Alec Reeves, whose boss at the time, TRE Superintendent A.P. Rowe, later wrote

CRUISE MISSILES, smart that it had been born and bred from daydreams", Helping turn Reeves' ideas into reality was Dr FE. Jones and a small team known formaily within TRE as Group 4 and more usually as the Oboe group.

Oboe was unrivalled as a

means of pinpointing a target. even when it was obscured by a total blanket of cloud. Most times it was the two-man, fast and high-flying, unarmed Mosquito which used Oboe, its pilot being guided towards the target by dot-dash signals in his headphones and the navigator receiving signals of his own which instructed the very moment when he must release his bright-burning, target-indicator flares. Thus, crews in the heavy bombers in their wake would be in no doubt as to the location of the target area and their own aiming point within it.

Such was the precision of Oboe, in which one ground station controlled the aircraft's track and another gave the release information, that if a crew was judged to be as much as 300 yards offtarget, it was back to school again! Time after time the Oboe crews would be "spot on" in positioning their target indicators. When groups of Oboe air crew and ground personnel meet these days. some wonder why it was udged more necessary to risk so many crews in heavy bombers on "area bombing" when Oboe was on hand to pinpoint strategic targets. And, in so doing, maybe save bomber crew lives and even shorten the war? After all, Dr R.V. Jones, the air intelligence specialist did call it "the most precise bombing system of the whole war".

In operational sorties alone, Bomber Command lost 47,268 members of air crew, the tiniest fraction of these being Oboe Mosquito pilots and navigators when compared with those who failed to return from missions in heavy bombers. If there had been more selective targeting and greater emphasis on using the twoman, far-cheaper-to-build Mosquito (the "Wooden Wonder" of the Second World War), with the Oboe "beambombing" equipment packed into its nose, who can envisage the effects and the results of the bombing offensive in Europe?

Oboe was sweet music in the ears to many crews in RAF Pathfinder Force, but as a precision device it fell short of achieving widespread use. This is seen by some as being a failure in strategic thinking among those who were charged with making the most of the Allies' superior air power. It was, in its day, the closest device possible to the guidance systems of present times, but let's face it - they, too, do not always hit the intended target.

Michael Cumming is the author of Beam Bombers' (Sutton, £19.99)

GAZETTE

BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

DEATHS

HORLICK: Georgina Suzanna Louise, on 27 November at Great Ormond Street Hospital, aged 12 years, dearly loved daughter of Tim and Nicola and darling sis-ter of Alice, Serena, Rupert and Antonia, Funeral service to be Antonia Function says who was held at St Augustine's Church, Queen's Gate, London SW7 on Thursday 3 December at 11am. No flowers please. Donations to REACH Fund, Great Ormond Street Hospital.

WHITE: Dorothy Marian, OBE. Dearly loved wife of John and mother of Jonathan, Kevin and Richard, died on 26 November at the Royal Free Hospital, Hamp-stead, London. Funeral service for family and immediate friends. Donations if wished to the Relatives Association at 5 Tavistock Place, London WC1R 9SN. A Memorial Service will be held early in the new year - to

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, in memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

OTHER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages), which must be submitted in writing, are charged at £10 a line. VAT extra. Always include a daytime telephone number.

switchboard number is 0171-293 2000.

The Independent's main

The OBITUARIES e-mail address is obituaries@independent.co.uk

BIRTHDAYS

Mr Woody Allen, actor, writer and director, 63; Professor Sir Norman Browse, consultant surgeon, 67; Mr Anthony Coe, former chief constable, Suffolk, 57; Mr Gordon Crosse, composer, 61: Mr Mike Denness, former Test cricketer, 58: Miss Eva Evdokimova, ballerina, 50; Mr Ian Gerken, ambassador to El Salvador, 55; Lord Glenconner, governing director, Tennants Estate, 72; Dame Alicia Markova, prima ballerina assoluta, 88: Mr Keith Michell, actor and director, 70; Miss Bette Midler, singer and comedienne, 53; Mr Safraz Nawaz, Pakistani test cricketer, 50; Mr Gilbert O'Sullivan, singer, 52; Mr Bruce Page writer, 62; Mr Stephen Poliakoff, playwright, 46; Mr Richard Pryor, actor, 58; Maj-Gen Sir Desmond Rice, 74; Dame Mildred Riddelsdell, former senior civil servant, 85; Mr Andy Ripley, former rugby international, 51; Lord Roll of Ipsden, president of the S.G. Warburg Group, 91; The Right Rev Peter Selby. Bishop of Worcester, 57; Mr Lee Trevino, golfer, 59; Professor Michael Williams. consultant engineer, 63.

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Anna Comnena, Byzantine princess and historian, 1083; John Keill, philosopher and mathematician, 1671; Madame Marie Tussaud (Grosholz), waxwork exhibitor, 1761; Queen Alexandra, consort of Edward VII, 1844; Ray Henderson, composer and producer, 1896; Helen de Guerry Simpson, novelist,

1897; Mary Martin, actress and singer, 1913.

Deaths: Henry I, King, 1135; Blanche of Castile, wife of King Louis VIII of France. 1252; Lorenzo Ghiberti, sculptor, 1455; Pope Leo X. 1521; St Edmund Campion, St Alexander Briant and St Ralph Sherwin, Jesuit martyrs, executed 1581; Thomas Weelkes, composer, buried 1623; Susannah Centlivre (Freeman), playwright and actress, 1723; Alexander I, Tsar of Russia, 1825; Dr George Birkbeck, founder of Birkbeck College, 1841; Ebenezer Elliott, poet and "anti-Corn Law rhymester", 1849; Henry William Banks Davis, painter, 1914; Leopold, Count von Kalckreuth, painter, 1928; Paul-Marie Théodore-Vincent d'Indy. composer, 1931; Samuel Courtauld, industrialist, 1947; Ernest John Moeran, composer, 1950; Sir Peter Henry Buck (Te Rangi Hiroa), Maori anthropologist and statesman, 1951; John Burton Sanderson Haldane, scientist, 1964; David Ben Gurion, Israeli statesman, 1973; Stéphane Grappelli, musician and jazz violinist, 1997.

On this day: Portugal became independent of Spain, 1640; the Royal Academy of Arts was founded. 1768; Jacques-Alexandre César Charles made the first ascent in a hydrogen-filled balloon, France, 1783; Iceland became a sovereign state, but with the same monarch as Denmark, 1918; Lady Nancy Astor became the first woman to take her seat in the House of Commons as an MR 1919; the Beveridge Report on social security was published, 1942;

hurricane force winds swept across Britain and caused widespread damage, 1966; Britain issued its first set of

of Edinburgh: The Presizog pay a State Visit. The Queen Mother visits the Royal Smithfield Show at sioning of 700 (Merlin) Helston, Cornwall.

Today is the Feast Day of St Agericus or Airy, St Alexander Briant, St Anasanus. St Edmund Campion, St Eligius or Eloy, St Ralph Sherwin

special Christmas stamps,

scope, largest in Western

vatory, 1967; Mikhail Gor-

1966; the Isaac Newton tele-

Europe, was inaugurated at

the Royal Greenwich Obser-

bachev, leader of the Soviet

Union, met the pope, John

Paul II in the Vatican, 1989;

the two pilot tunnels for the

Channel Tunnel were joined,

thus linking the two coasts

for the first time, 1990.

MARIUS GORING

and St Tudwal.

A memorial service in celebration of the life of Marius Goring CBE FRSL will be held at St Paul's Church, Covent Garden, at noon on Thursday 14 January 1999.

ROYAL SOCIETY

Sir Aaron Klug, President, presided at the annual meeting of the Royal Society held yesterday at Carlton House Terrace, London SW1, to mark the 338th Anniversary of the founding of the Society. He presented the Society's medals, awards and prizes for scientific excellence and gave the Anniversary Address. A reception was held afterwards. Among those present were: Lady Klug. Sir Eric Ash, Tressurer, and Lady Ash: Professor J.S. Rowlinson, Physical Secretary, and Mirs Rowlinson; Professor PPG. Bateson, Biological Secretary, and Mirs Bateson: Professor and Mirs Rateson; Professor and Mirs R.B. Heep; Lord and Lady Hundey; Lord and Lady Julicoe; Lord Perry.

ENGAGEMENTS

The Queen and The Duke dent of the Federal Republic of Germany and Frau Her-Earls Court Exhibition Centre, London SW5; The Duke of York attends the commis-Naval Air Squadron at Royal Naval Air Station Culdrose,

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am.

LECTURES National Gallery: Colin

Wiggins, "Mirrors (i): Self-

portraits by Lucian Freud",

Victoria and Albert Museum: Diana Perry Aldrich, "The Renaissance Architectural Interior", 2pm. Tate Gallery: Edwin Aitkin, "England for Ever: the work of John Constable", 1pm. Wallace Collection, London W1: Rosalind Savill, "The Hertfords as Collectors of Sèvres Porcelain", 1pm. University College London. Gower St, London WC1: Dr Alison Wright, "Design, Invention and New Subject Matter in 15th-century Florentine Art", 1.15pm. Exeter University: Professor David Braund, "Insiders and Outsiders: Ancient Greece, Rome and the Cau-

casus", 1.15pm.

ROYAL

es of the United Kingdom in respect of acts performed in the exercise of functions recognised by international law as functions of a head of state, was not immune in respect of conduct which was plainly unacceptable in international law. The House of Lords (Lord

A FOREIGN former head of

state, whilst having immuni-

ty from the criminal process-

Slynn and Lord Lloyd dissenting) reversed the decision of the Divisional Court (Law Report, 30 October 1998), which had quashed provisional warrants issued under section 8(1)(b) of the Extradition Act 1989 at the request of the Spanish Government for the arrest of the applicant.

The charges against the applicant were torture, contrary to section 134(1) of the Criminal Justice Act 1988, and hostage-taking, contrary to section 1 of the Taking of Hostages Act 1982. It was conceded that both offences were extradition crimes within the meaning of the Extradition Act The Divisional Court quashed

the applicant was head of the Chilean state at the time of the alleged offences and that he was, therefore, entitled to immunity from the criminal processes of the English courts. The court certified, as a question of law of general public importance, "the proper interpretation and scope of the immunity enjoyed by a former head of state from arrest and extradition proceedings in the United Kingdom in respect of acts committed while he was head of state". Alun Jones QC, Professor

TUESDAY LAW REPORT 1 DECEMBER 1998

No immunity for

unacceptable conduct

Regina v Bartle and others, ex parte Pinochet; Regina v Evans and others, ex parte Pinochet

House of Lords (Lord Slynn of Hadley; Lord Lloyd of Berwick, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead, Lord Stevn and Lord Hoffmann) 25 November 1998

Lewis and Campaspe Lloyd-Jacob (Crown Prosecution Service, International Division) for the Government of Spain and the Metropolitan Police; Clive Nicholls QC. Clare Montgomery QC, Helen Malcolm, James Cameron and Julian Knowles (Kingsley Napley) for the applicant: David Lloyd Jones (Treasury Solicitor) as amicus curiae: the warrant on the ground that Professor Ion Brownlie QC. Michael Fordham, Owen Davies and Frances Webber (Bindmans) for Amnesty as intervenor.

Lord Nicholls said that section 20 of the State Immunity Act 1978 conferred personal immunity upon a head of state by reference "with necessary modifications" to the privileges and immunites enjoyed by the head of a diplomatic mission under the Vienna Contions 1961, which was enacted as a schedule to the Diplo-Christopher Greenwood, James matic Privileges Act 1964.

under article 31, "immunity from the criminal jurisdiction of the receiving state". Accordingly there could be no doubt that if the anplicant had still been head of the Chilean state, he would have

been entitled to immunity. Whether he continued to enjoy immunity after ceasing to be head of state turned upon the proper interpretation of article 39.2 of the convention, which provided, in effect, that a former head of state should continue to enjoy immunity with respect to acts performed by him in the exercise of his functions as head of state.

The crucial question was whether the acts of torture and hostage-taking charged against the applicant were done in the exercise of his functions as head of state.

It hardly needed saying that torture of his own subjects, or aliens, would not be regarded by international law as a function of a head of state. Similarly, the taking of hostages, as much as torture, had been outlawed by the international com-

munity as an offence. Whilst recognising that the functions of a head of state might include activities which were wrongful, even illegal, by the law of his own or other states, international law had made plain that certain types of conduct, including torture and hostage-taking, were not accentable conduct on the part of anyone. That applied as much to heads of state, or even more so, as it did to everyone else: the contrary conclusion would vention on Diplomatic Rela- make a mockery of international law

> KATE O'HANLON **Barrister**

AN ANONYMOUS piece in The Grocer magazine reported last week that a round-the-clock "c-store" will soon open on the Strand. It will contain a refreshment area -- a tonic for the area's myriad homeless - and will have a "small ambient grocery section".

Presumably it is the sec-

WORDS **CHRISTOPHER**

HAWTREE ambient, adj.

what does this mean? It once meant revolving, but now means surrounding, as in the ambient air. Is the the store? In which case it is neither a section nor smali.

The OED notes that as an epithet of the air, "it is often ignorantly put for 'limpid', or otherwise misused", and one suspects that The Grocer mistook the 'bien' part of the word for the French. So perhaps it is the grocery tion that is ambient, but grocery, then, spread about that is ambient after all.

The waiter who won't get out of bed for less than £1,000

(and other ways to milk the Millennium)

By Hettie Judah

here may be more than 12 months to go before midnight on 31 December 1999 but if you haven't already been invited to the arty to end all parties, let's face it, ou won't be. There is, however, an Iternative to staying in, watching elevision and inventing resoluons for the next millennium. You ould go to work Rates for clocking in on New

'ear's Eve start at £1,000 per shift. nstead of an excuse for morbid nosalgia, the evening could be a grand tep into a brighter future. Start the ext century as you mean to go on: ober, with a happy bank balance. For once the market is in the

nands of the underdogs: waitresss and bar staff, child-minders and axi drivers. These are the people vithout whom all celebrations will æ impossible. The problem for employers is

hat because so few people want to work, the rates are going up and up. There will be a huge shortage of waiters and waitresses." confirmed AM & PM Catering. "We have accepted just one job from a regular client, but it wouldn't surprise me if they end up paying £1,000 per head for the waiting staff.

Prices quoted elsewhere range from £600 to £1,500, but most acknowledge £1,000 to be the startingpoint. Many companies, such as Crown Society Events, are being forced to turn down offers.

At least working as a waiter will allow you to be at a party, even if it improvement on seeing the New Year in with a gang of unsympathetic toddlers. For every mum and dad who go out to a party, someone will be left holding the baby. Hope & Dreams, which runs a

babysitting agency and a children's hotel, is setting its sights on a mod-

an hour. Childminders, the world's largest babysitting agency, will be publishing its official rates in April, but estimates between £40 and £50 an hour for that evening. "We can only give rough estimates," says Aunt Jessica Cares, which provides qualified nannies. Current quotes hover around £500 a day, 10 times the usual rate. Come New Year there will be a vast shortage of reliable babysitters; some highly paid female executives are already toying with the idea of running one-off creche facilities for friends.

If the company of other people's children is just too bideous to contemplate, perhaps the prospect of ferrying drunken revellers around town is more attractive. Last week there were news stories suggesting that London will have no public

For once the market is in the hands of the underdogs – from

transport; drivers are apparently demanding astronomical sums before London Transport can even start planning a scheme to run the Tube all night. There were even rumours that the whole network could grind to a halt if the staff "phoned in sick en masse". A union spokesman was more reassuring. oviding the right money is ofis this crazy figure that the drivers are hoping for? "The preliminary demand was £500 and a week off."

Trying to find a taxi is always hard over Christmas; on New Year's Eve 1999 it could be impossible.

est triple-time pay rise, to about £24 Minibus Hire and Coach Hire both expect their drivers to be asking £500 before the cost of the vehicle. although, as both admit, "It's a matter of finding somebody who will work then." Computer Cabs, which handles 2500 taxis in the capital, is tackling the problem systematically. After the trauma of this New Year they will begin polling their drivers. "When we can ascertain what sort of coverage we might expect we can start talking about cost; anyone working will definitely be paid a premium, but nobody really knows who they will have working; demand

There are always glitzier op-tions. The Celebrity Lookalikes agency has so far accepted no bookings, but anticipates a 20 per cent mark-up for the evening. Should you possess an uncanny resemblance to Marilyn Monroe, that translates as £1,000 for a guest appearance. All those hell-bent on hitting big-time fame in the next 12 months could do worse than try their hand at public speaking. After Dinner Speakers is quoting a 50 per cent rise in prices for 31 December barmen to babysitters 1999. Those whose ambitions carry them on to equal status with John Major can expect about £110,000 for a selection of well crafted tidbits over the petits fours. More modest self-promoters, at the level of, say, Lily Savage, could be looking at a tidy £15,000. Not to be sniffed at.

News of the Millennium Bug has struck terror into the financial capitals of the world, and one of the greatest fears is that there won't be fered, people who have agreed to round. If you never finished that IT work that night will do so." And what course at college, now is the time to put the Seliotape back on to your spectacles, don your fighting anorak and try again; there is a fortune out there just waiting to be made. Re-



£300. Sally Woodcock of The Final Step thinks this could be too conservative. "They should be able to command any price they want at Currently call-out is £1,000 a day; the closer you get to the deadline the

If the closest you come to technological wizardry is twiddling with the knobs on you stereo, fear not. The prospect of a good knees-up would disappear without a fully paid up smoothie spinning the pairs co is already quoting £200 an sounds. And fully paid they will hour for anyone working as a Glob-surely be. At Discos will be paying

venue and location, compared with an average £200 for a gig at any other time. Absolutely Fab, which also books DJs, has already taken that point, if people are panicking. a number of calls and quotes "anything between £1,000 and £5,000". Meanwhile the bouncers are looktheir usual rate of £4.

Famous DJs with a couple of hit Far goes to Paul Zenon, an amiable singles, a decent reputation in Ibiza and egos the size of Wales can name their price to mastermind the gig of a lifetime. One promoter suggests that for a premier-league dance DJ the bidding would probably start at

THE REWARDS of working

from home are many, but

the biggest must be the

pleasure of not working

remember it, involved an

elaborate subterfuge of

looking busy, or at least

awake. Not working from

what you want, as long as

way on Thursdays. Most of

my days begin at 10am or

11am and progress directly

"busy" to get dressed. And

it is a hard day indeed that

doesn't come to a crashing

halt at 4:30pm, just in time

Like most people, I like

Countdown for all the

I like the rapier-sharp

exchanges between the

the "keeper of the

personalities.

host, Richard Whitely, and

dictionary", one of a strict rota of bearded radio

I like Richard Whitely's

jokes, most of which seem

speeches, and all of which

audience. Best of all I like

route Richard takes when

he shifts from introducing

Vorderman. Some days you

can't believe your ears. My

personal favourite went

"Speaking of plays, there

once was a play called I Am

something like this:

the tortured, pun-laden

are received in appreciative

to come straight from a

book of best man's

silence by the studio

the dictionary guy to

introducing Carol

wrong reasons. I like the

way it doesn't appear to be

staged for anyone's benefit.

for Countdown.

from home.

are represented by David Levy. "I do not discuss my clients' fees," he comments coyly. "But I can promise you it will be more than you could possibly imagine."

To go any higher, you need magic on your side; the prize for Extraordinary Offer of the Millennium So young chap from Brighton with a talent for close-up trickery, seen last week on the Comedy Lab plying his trade on the streets of Soho. Zenon has been offered a millennium gig in Las Vegas. His fee? \$150,000.

It's got to go

Continued from page 1 be avoided. The figure is clearly emerging from a tomb - and you don't even have to think of a transi, iust of any rising from grave

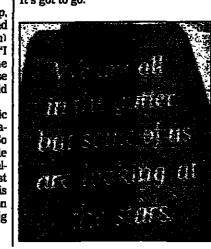
Or, if it's really not wormlike, it's meaningless tricksy texturing, which points in only one direction - not to Wilde, or to us, but to the hand of the maker. So the piece becomes, not a public monument, not a social act, but a personal tribute by the artist. Absolutely, in every way, it's not what

Now it would be quite wrong for me to suggest that anyone should think of breaking the law. Let me be clearer: do not break the law. Besides, it's a feature of recumbent statues that they do not easily tempt a volatile citizenry into an act of toppling. No doubt casual vandalism will be as resourceful as it ever is, but that won't be enough. And imagining the appropriate accident scenario takes one into the further reaches of extraordinary coincidence.

But why this fuss, anyway? London is just busting with ludicrous and lamentable public sculpture. Do you happen to know The Cellist on the South Bank? Or Physical Energy in Kensington Gardens? And there are some absolute stunners out in Docklands. This piece is only one more, and by no means the worst or the largest example. Good heavens, look at that unspeakable Paolozzi - I know, a tautology - they put up in front of the new British Library. That really should be on the sappers' hit list.

OK. But I come back to the original point. It's a point about meaning. The Paolozzi giant means nothing, it's just something they stick outside a library because they think they have to stick something there. But the Wilde monument might have meant something great, might have performed a serious social and historical deed. The one we've got now doesn't. It doesn't begin to try. It's tourist tat. Don't say it insults Wilde. It disgraces us.

What a true Wilde monument would be like, who could make it, I can't immediately imagine. It wouldn't need to be bigger. It probably couldn't be directly figurative. Its impact would be complex. But we'll never get a true one while this one's still there. It took a big campaign to get it up, but that's nothing to what it'll take to get it down. An empty space would be better. At any event, it's got to go.



CLASSIFIED

No. 006557 of 1998

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANTES COURT

IN THE MATTER OF WORLD AVIATION SUPPORT LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 19th day o November 1998 presented in Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above named Company from £1,700,000 to £00,000 by the cancellation of [1,400,000 Ordinary Named of Each

Shares of £) cach. AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Retition is directed to be heard before the Registrar of the Compunies Court at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WCA 211, on Wednesday the 9th December 1988. ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the

that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be funcished in any such person requiring the saing by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge by the same. Dated this 1st day of December 1998

Messes Maxwell Batky 27 Chancery Lane London WCZA 1PA

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE NO. 3439 OF 1998 IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986 AND LUMMAUS AGRICULTURAL SERVICES COMPANY

LIMITED IN LICIDIDATION TRADING NAME: LUMBIUS
AGENCULTURAL SERVICES COMPANY

TRADING ADDRESS: ALLIED HOUSE, 39 LONDON BOAD, TWICKENBAU, MIDDLESEX, TWI 37F Notice is hereby green that I was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company by a Meeting of Creditors held on 28 October 1998. Any parties having to their passession any of the effects of the liquidation must delive them to me and all teles due to the computity result be paul to one.

PETER JOHN BOBERTSON SOUSTER

No. 006556 of 1998

Legal Notices

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION COMPANIES COURT

AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN then a Petition was on the 16th day of November 1998 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above named Company capital or the above manes Company from £4,875,000 to £872,000 by the cancellation of 4,005,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN on Wednesday the 9th December 1998. ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of

uen purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be formished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Soficitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same. Dated this list day of Decem

Messrs Marwell Batley 27 Chancery Lane ondon WCLA IFA (Solicitors for the above to Rat 451

The issolvency Roles 1986
Rule 4.106(1)
NEWPOND LIMITED

In Creditors Voluntary Liquidatio Company Number: 3372984
Principal Trading Address:
The Basement, 143a Charing Cross
Road, London, WCZE 05E Notice is hereby given that Ian Franses, Licensed Innihency Practitioner of Ian Franses Associates, Conduit House, 24 Conduit Place, London W2 1EP was apprinted Ligadator of Newpord Limited on 25 Ninsember 1968. on 25 housender Fred.
All creditors who have not already done so an exquired to prove their debts in writing to bit lain Frances at Condini Hones, 24 Condust Place, Loadon W2 1EP before 31 December 1998 and, if so required by instice in writing to come in and prove their debts or claims at such more, or in other their of their control in such notice, or in other their or their control they will be excluded from the herefit of any distribution made before such debts are provided.

No. 006555 of 1998 IN THE HIGH COURT OF CHANCERY DIVISION

COMPANIES COURT IN THE MAITER OF BRITISH WORLD AVIATION LIMITED AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GVEN that a Position was on the 10th day of November 1998 presented to Her Majest's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above named Company from £10,509-400 to £4,507-400 Deferred States of 1630,200,000 Deferred States of 1p each. AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Registrar of the Companies Court at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WCZA ZLL, on Wednesday the 9th December 1998. ANY Creditor or Stareholder of the Act of Company destring to oppose the making of an Order for the entifirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for their names.

that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Dated this 1st day of December 1998 Mexis Maxwell Batter

27 Chancery Lune London WC2A IPA (Solucitors for the above named Company (Ref. (c)

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THE JOYS OF MODERN LIFE

22. 'COUNTDOWN' BY TIM DOWLING



Carol Vorderman and the host, Richard Whitely

A Camera - well if I were a camera, there is nothing I would rather be focused on than the lovely Carol Vorderman." We often say that things are beyond parody, but it's always nice to have an example at your

fingertips. The game itself is secondary for me, basically because I am no good at it. The other day the letters E. A, L, C, R, E, T, P and O came up. In 30 seconds

someone had figured out a way to use them all to spell PERCOLATE. I got TOP No programme on television has Countdown's special knack for making me feel smug and brain-damaged at the same time. I have often consoled myself with the thought that I would do much better if I allowed myself to use a bit of paper and a pencil, which goes against my belief that

television is meant to be

I watch Countdown with a connoisseur's eye, in that I appreciate it, without really understanding what is going on. I look out for little strategies and psychological insights that might affect the course of play. You will notice, for instance, that Carol makes a little grimace of commiseration whenever the letter O turns up, as if to say, "Oooh, bad luck mate." At this point I often shout at the television set that Q is just as good as any other letter, and that with a little imagination, and a U, a real player could turn this setback to his or her advantage. Of course, nothing could be further from the truth, and it only proves that I am largely missing the point. As for the numbers game, I find I do tolerably well at it for someone who has never fully understood its rules.

passive entertainment.

Chiefly I watch for the same reason that everyone else watches. I'm watching for the day when Carol flips over those letters and the first four are F, U, C and K.

As far as I'm aware it hasn't happened yet, but if the helpless, showstopping corpsing that goes on whenever they accidentally spell something like BRA is anything to go by, that day

will be apocalyptic. Actually they'd probably edit it out, then collect it together with all the other times they've spelt out TIT ARS or COQ ("Oh, a Q sorry dear") and put them out on a video with a 15 certificate. I'd buy it.

المكذا من الاصل

Rachael says

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Sukarno

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How we destroyed Sukarno

حكذا من الاجل

Foreign Office 'dirty tricks' helped overthrow Indonesia's President Sukarno in 1966. Over the next 30 years, half a million people died. By Paul Lashmar and James Oliver

n autumn 1965, Norman Reddaway, a lean and erudite rising star of the Foreign Office, was briefed for a special mission. The British Ambassador to Indonesia, Sir Andrew Gilchrist, had just visited London for discussions with the head of the Foreign Office, Joe Garner. Covert operations to undermine Sukarno, the troublesome and independently minded President of Indonesia, were not going well. Garner was persuaded to send Reddaway the FO's propaganda expert, to Indonesia. His task: to take on anti-Sukarno propaganda operations run by the Foreign Office and M16. Garner gave Reddaway £100,000 in cash "to do anything I could do to get rid of Sukarno", he says.

....

Reddaway thus joined the loose amalgam of groups from the Foreign Office, M16, the State Department and the CIA in the Far East, all striving to depose Sukarno in diffuse and devious ways. For the next six months he and his colleagues chipped away at Sukarno's regime, undermining his reputation and assisting his enemies in the army. By March 1966 Sukarno's power base was in tatters and he was forced to hand over his presidential authority to General Suharto, the head of the army, who was already running a campaign of mass murder against alleged communists.

According to Reddaway the overthrow of Sukarno was one of the Foreign Office's "most successful" coups, which they have kept a secret until now. The British intervention in Indonesia, alongside complimentary CIA operations, shows how far the Foreign Office was prepared to go in intervening in other countries' affairs during the Cold War. Indonesia was important both economically and strategically. In :952 the US noted that if Indonesia fell out of Western influence. neighbours such as Malaya might follow, resulting in the loss of the rubber and tin and a producer of ments in the Indonesian army oetroieum and other strati important commodities".

The Japanese occupation during the Second World War, which to the Indonesians amounted to another period of colonial rule, had revitalised the nationalist movement which after the war, declared independence and assumed power. Airmed Sukarno became Indonesia's first president. Western concern regarding Sukarno's regime grew

nesian communist party, the PKI, which at its peak had a membership of over 10 million, the largest communist party in the non-communist world. Concerns were not allayed by Sukarno's internal and external policies, including nationalising Western assets and a governmental role for the PKL

By the early Sixties Sukarno had become a major thorn in the side of both the British and the Americans. They believed there was a real danger that Indonesia would fall to the communists. To balance the army's growing power, Sukarno aligned imself closer to the PKI.

The first indication of British interest in removing Sukarno appears in a CIA memorandum of 1962. Prime Minister Macmillan and President Kennedy agreed to "liquidate President Sukarno, depending on the situation and available opportunities".

Hostility to Sukarno was intensified by Indonesian objections to the Malaysian Federation. Sukarno complained the project was "a neo-colonial plot, pointing out that the Federation was a project for Malayan expansionism and continuing British influence in the region.

In 1963 his objections crystallised in his policy of Konfrontasi, a breaking off of all relations with Malaysia, soon coupled with low-level military intervention. A protracted border war began along the 700-mile-long front in Borneo.

According to Foreign Office sources the decision to get rid of Sukarno had been taken by Macmillan's Conservative government and carried through during Wilson's 1964 Labour government. The Foreign Office had worked in conjunction with their American counterparts on a plan to oust the turbulent Sukarno. A covert operation and psychological warfare strategy was instigated, based at Phoenix Park, in Singapore, the British headquarters in the region. The M16 principal world source of natural team kept close links with key eleof these was Ali Murtopo, later Gen- a curious way, by keeping correeral Subarto's intelligence chief, and M16 officers constantly travelled back and forth between Singapore official channels, because almost the and Jakarta.

The Foreign Office's Information Research Department (IRD) also Jakarta." The opportunity to isolate by IRD was the threat posed by the full things which the West wished on worked out of Phoenix Park, reinforcing the work of M16 and the military psychological warfare experts. attempt was the pretext for the



President Sukarno (above) inspecting his troops in October 1965. Norman Reddaway (below), propaganda expert of the Foreign Office

Hulton Getty

duct an anti-communist propaganda war against the Soviets. but had swiftly become enlisted in various anti-independence movement operations in the declining British Empire. By the Sixties, IRD had a staff of around 400 in London and information officers around the world influencing media coverage in areas of British interest.

According to Roland Challis, the BBC correspondent at the time in Singapore, journalists were open to manipulation by IRD, owing, ironi-Sukarno made them the victims of only information you could get was from the British ambassador in Sukarno and the PKI came in October 1965 when an alleged PKI coup IRD had been established by the army to sideline Sukarno and erad-

the coup and for what purposes remains a matter of speculation. However, within days the coup had been crushed and the army was firmly in control. Suharto accused the PKI of being behind the coup, and set about suppressing them.

Following the attempted coup Britain set about exploiting the situation. On 5 October. Alec Adams. political adviser to the Commanderin-Chief. Far East, advised the Foreign Office: "We should have no hesitation in doing what we can surthrough the British Embassy. One cally, to Sukarno's own policies: "In reptitiously to blacken the PKI in the eyes of the army and the people of spondents out of the country Indonesia." The Foreign Office agreed and suggested "suitable propaganda themes" such as PKI atrocities and Chinese intervention.

One of the main themes pursued PKI and "Chinese communists". Newspaper reports continually emphasised the danger of the PKI. Drawing upon their experience in owing to the strength of the Indo- Labour government in 1948 to con- icate the PKI. Who exactly instigated Malaya in the Fifties, the British into an ethnic thing. It is a terrible

emphasised the Chinese nature of the communist threat. Roland Challis said: "One of the more successto the non-communist politicians in Indonesia was to transfer the whole idea of communism onto the Chinese minority in Indonesia. It turned it

thing to have done to incite the Indonesians to rise and slaughter the Chinese.'

But it was the involvement of Sukarno with the 'KI in the bloody months following the coup that was to be the British trump card. According to Reddaway: "The communist leader, Aidit, went on the run and Sukarno, being a great politician, went to the front of the palace and said that the communist leader Aidit must be hunted down and brought to justice. From the side door of the palace, he was dealing with him every day by courier."

This information was revealed by the signal intelligence of Britain's GCHQ. The Indonesians didn't have a clue about radio silence and this double-dealing was picked up by GCHQ; the British had its main eavesdropping base in Hong Kong tuned into events in Indonesia.

The discrediting of Sukarno was of fundamental importance. Sukarno remained a respected and popular

leader against whom Suharto could not move openly until the conditions were right. The constant barrage of bad international coverage and Sukarno's plummeting political position fatally undermined him. On 10 March 1966, Sukarno was forced to sign over his powers to General Suharto. Now perceived as closely associated with the attempted coup and the PKI. Sukarno had been discredited to the point where the army felt able to act. The PKI was eliminated as a significant force and a pro-Western military torship firmly established.

It was not long before Suharto quietly ended the inactive policy of Konfrontasi resulting in a swift improvement in Anglo-Indonesian relations, which continue to be close to this day.

From: Britain's Secret Propaganda War 1948-77', by Paul Lashmar and James Oliver, to be published

Rachael says she's living in a slum. Unfortunately no one else has noticed. By Cayte Williams

Calling time on the landlord



RACHAEL studying Art History

ROSIE studying







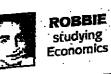
Management







LAN studying Geography



THERE ARE three things that plague students through college: essays, money and landlords. On the subject of accommodation, the students fall into two camps: Students Who Will Fight The Landlord and those who just pay the rent and accept the damp and crumbling cornices. In the Manchester household, Rachael falls into the first category. And it looks like she's on her own. It's not that the other eight

just that it's not a priority. The students signed the lease, thereby agreeing to spend the bulk of their grants on rent. The landlord agreed to make many improvements, most of which never got done. After essentials - an alarm system and ground-floor window bars - were installed, the other eight members of the house resigned themselves to the damp squalor but

Rachael could smell a rat.

landlord. "There was this

which he said was darker

huge damp patch on the wall

have abandoned her in the

quest for decent housing. It's

Not that the house has : odents, but her rip-off cetector was going full tilt. "The things that are wrong with the house affect your health," she explains. "Like the damp and the rotting windows. The carpet was so wet in David's room that mushrooms were growing there, and there were leaks and drips everywhere." Rachael pointed all this out to the

THIS STUDENT Life



WEEK 6 AT THE **MANCHESTER** STUDENT HOUSE

because it was new plaster," she says. "Basically, he was talking rubbish."

Rachael is not one to take these things lightly. This is the girl who went on a New Zealand holiday when she was 18 and ended up DJing on a local radio station; and for whom bungee-jumping is a nice way to pass the time. She's not scared of a little landlord argy-bargy.

"I got fed up with living in a skuddy house like this," she explains. "The landlord is getting £15,000 a year out of us and he's done nothing

in return. So I called the council, and an environmental health officer came to the house. He went through what repairs needed to be done for us to live in a decent house,"

Everyone was rather surprised by the environmental health officer's far-reaching findings. Among 15 or so problems, he said that the kitchen on the top floor should be ripped out because it was a fire hazard. It should have had free access," explains Rachael.

'Otherwise it was a danger.' However, Rosie is hacked off with the changes. She's got a kitchen next to her room which she was happily using for storage space. "Rachael and Dani may have to use my kitchen now they don't have one and my storage is back all over my room again. Everything's all

over the place." Rachael is undeterred. "The environmental officer is a professional and if he says there is something wrong, then there is

something wrong." Since the landlord found out about the council man, she has been harassed by his sidekick, who yells abuse whenever he comes around to do the enforced repairs. "I won't let somebody bully us," she says defiantly, but the others are feeling the strain.

"I quite liked the landlord," says Tash. "But he and Rachael have been at each other's throats."

The crisis is starting to escalate. "There's been an exchange of nasty letters," Tash continues. "In the past if you hadn't paid your rent on the first of the month, the landlord would have been fine about it, but now we've got this nasty letter saying pay on the first or else. And he gave us a letter which said he was going to come around and do monthly checks on the house.

When you see the list of things wrong with the house that the council sent us, it really opens your eyes, because I wouldn't have bothered to do anything about it. This is a student house, it's not your house at home. You try and make it as homely as you can, but there's no point being concerned about the structure of it because we won't be here in 12 months." The girl has got a point, but as Rachael would say, "It's the principle of the thing."

Mention the house situation to the others, and they shrug their shoulders. Nobody is blaming Rachael for getting the council involved, but you can sense a tension in the air that wasn't there before. Will the landlord make everyone's life a misery because Rachael wanted to make a point? Or is Rachael doing the right thing and making the landlord work for his money? Who knows - but only time will tell whether they've got a Rigsby collecting their rent or not.

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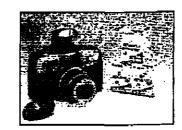
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To play the queen

Antony Sher - actor, writer, painter. All round renaissance man, in fact. And now he is interested in the stuff of souls. In particular, the soul of Shakespeare's great Egyptian lover. Antony is Cleopatra. By David Lister

ntony Sher was on his way to the psychiatrist when I met him. He was to tell me later that the Shakespearean role e still most wants to play on stage s Cleopatra. But it was not to disuss this that he was seeing a hrink. The day before he had been o see the neurologist.

At 49, Sher should be a contentnd man. His new novel The Feast eems sure to confirm his status as ı writer. A surreal political thriller et in east Africa, it is by turns chillng and moving and shows a fevered magination at work.

And the day job is about to take 1 new turn. It is curious that Sher's name always springs to mind as one of our great Shakespearean actors. But he has actually only played five Shakespearean roles and not one of the great tragic heroes. His sixth will be Leontes in the RSC's new production of The Winter's Tale. And it is so that he can learn more about the King of Sicilia's irrational jealousy in this late "problem" play that he is consulting psychiatrists and neurologists.

The production, which starts in Stratford and then transfers to the Barbican, is directed by Sher's partner and RSC associate director Greg Doran. Sher talks in matter of fact terms about a normal, loving relationship complete with its rocksolid dependency and its tantrums.

"The worst aspect of being directed by Greg," he says, "is that we lose our best friend. We lose the person that you come home to and say I had a shitty day at rehearsal, or the director's driving me crazy. So home life is quite strange. We're not allowed to talk about it unless one of us asks permission. The first time we worked together was on Titus Andronicus and there were literally flying plates.'

It is hard to imagine Sher throwing anything. Shy at first, thoughtful and serious, he is more interested in engaging in genuine conversation than in answering a set of questions. And as he begins to relax, he reveals a refreshingly irreverent political incorrectness. It's intriguing to meet him at a moment when he appears to be reassessing his life, his self-esteem and even his whole acting style.

"I spent a lot of years trying not to be who I am," he says, "be it sexually, or Jewish, or white south African because I don't want to cor-



ner the market in minority groups in that way. Now Γ've not just come to terms with it. I've learned to love those aspects of who I am. And it's stupid to pretend that Africa isn't very powerfully in my blood."

Some of his guilt feelings in the past arose because he never left South Africa out of distaste for apartheid. It was a career move, to go to drama school in England. "No, there was nothing heroic. I wasn't remotely aware of apartheid until I left. People find that hard to believe. But life was so good and comfortable. And my family was so apolitical. We never thought anything other than

in love with Africa again, entranced even by its violence, decadence and comedy. Its protagonist is Felix, who runs a large, run-down theatre somewhere in East Africa. Returning home from America after a spell in rehab, the world seems to have gone mad; he is now sober but the rest of the world is drunk.

But there is tenderness too, particularly in the relationship between Felix and his goddaughter. As Sher claims unfashionably that all fiction is to some degree autobiographical. I wondered if this too was based on a relationship in his own life.

In his new novel Sher is vividly not actually that comfortable with kids at all. I'd be a terrible father because I'm so selfish, so self-absorbed. I'm so busy that there's just space in my life for a big, solid relationship, which I have.

So he doesn't miss children? "No. I sometimes think there's this strange thing that a lot of other eople seem to do. I wonder what that must be like. I feel curious about it, but no sort of gut feeling." He considers this for a moment, then asks: "Have you got children? They must be terribly time consuming?

Sher's late father was a businessman who exported hides. He

Sher would not want to see repeated, even were he able to choose to do so. "To write and to paint I'd have to lock myself away and then I'd be an awful father. And my father was very remote father who was passionate about his work, and in that period in South Africa had virtually nothing to do with us kids. My mother didn't really either because there were maids and servants to look after the children...

"But I loved writing that relationship in the book because I really enjoyed imagining that, and that relationship, an island of tenderness is very important to the story be-'No. I don't have a godchild. I'm saw little of his son, an experience cause the story is so black and vi-

olent. No. not black... dark. I must be careful. Political correctness."

Sher is equally cynical about political correctness in the theatre. Bravely, for a white South African, he agrees that it is time to end the bar on white actors playing Othello. "Iago's more my part but I think it's a terrible shame that all the great actors aren't given their Othello. It's tragic, and it's ludicrous really. Why should I, who's not heterosexual, be allowed to play Leontes? Why should we be allowed to claim the souls of different people, yet when it comes to skin colour... it's absurd."

This phrase about claiming the soul is one Sher chooses carefully. And it is not a phrase he would probably associate with his most famous and highly technical performances, such as his high-energy Richard the Third on crutches, in which the emphasis is less on seeking the soul of a part than in techniques of disguise and impersonation.

His change in approach is, he says, "a conversion that I've had. When I started out as an actor my heroes were Olivier and Peter Sellers and Alec Guinness, the great disguise merchants. And I'm not interested in that at all any more. The kind of acting that excites me and moves me is mostly from females: Judi Dench, Fiona Shaw, Vanessa Redgrave. Michael Gambon at his best does that well."

The search for the soul of Leontes has led him from the rehearsal room to the consulting room. "It's really interesting to try and track down what condition he might have. Here is a man clearly imagining [his wife having an affair] and bringing terrible destruction to him and his family as a result. He stops being able to sleep, he hallucinates, his speech is extraordinarily fractured and it's just the most wonderful case history to build up."

Seeking the soul of a character has also led to a request that is the strangest that RSC artistic director Adrian Noble has ever received. Sher explains: "Tve asked Adrian if I could play Cleopatra. It would have been played originally by a chap. Adrian said that if he allowed me to do that he would be lynched by about a dozen leading actresses. But it's a wonderful part. Antony bores me rigid."

The Feast' is published by Little, Brown, price £16.99. The Winter's Tale opens in Stratford-upon-Avon on 10 December (01789 295623).

Space not the place

POP BRIXTON ACADEMY LONDON

ONE OF the drawbacks of being in a cartoon band is that, for the band members, the joke begins to wear thin. It is Space's lyrical surrealism and permanently raised eyebrows that caused them to stand out against their gloomy contemporaries two years ago, but the skewed humour that they so effortlessly relay in the studio was severely lacking at Brixton Academy on Friday night.

Compounded by the venue's notorious PA system, Tommy Scott's vocals came over as a muffled whine, while the soft-rock histrionics of guitarist and vocalist Jamie Murphy would have fitted a Dire Straits gig.

Space date from 1984, though fame and fortune eluded them until 1996 when their eerie "Female of the Species" suddenly shifted a million copies. If Space's knowingness has been part of their act all that time, their listlessness is hardly surprising.

One of the tragically few high points of the evening came with the arrival of Catatonia's Cerys Matthews, albeit on a video backdrop, for their celebrated joint-rendering of "The Ballad Of Tom Jones". Unlike Scott, her pleasingly chafing voice wasn't drowned out by Murphy's pompous fretwork, while the startling line "I want to cut off your nuts" provided ribald amusement among the swathes of lager-swilling lads in the crowd.

But the lounge-lizard crooning, the sunny splashes of reggae and the rousing string arrangements of Space's album Tin Planet were sorely missed and Scott seemed strangely subdued. One would expect such a relentlessly wacky band to be bursting with Jarvislike inter-song witticisms. But the only time that Scott spoke up was to shout, "Prince Charles is a tit. don't you think?", but he failed to elucidate any further.

You longed for the vaudeville of their recorded material, but though Scott climbed the balustrades during

"Neighbourhood", and clambered over the DJ box during "We've Got To Get Out Of This Place", they lacked passion and precision.

Considering their catastrophic Murphy had a breakdown and drummer Andy Perle suffered from nervous exhaustion, it is a wonder that Space are playing at all. They managed to produce a classy album, but as a live act, it seems that Space are burnt out. FIONA STURGES

Treachery, confusion and extortionate tunes

THE STARTING time originally announced for last Saturday's performance of Rossini's Semiramide was 7.15pm, late for an opera that doesn't give much change out of four hours, and Chelsea Opera Group wisely decided to start 45 minutes earlier (the opera still didn't finish till nearly 11.00pm).

Unfortunately, news of the change failed to reach this quarter, and your correspondent missed most of the opera's first hour. It's a measure of Rossini's leisurely approach to narrative development that Act 1, Scene 1 was still in the process of unfolding at that point.

That's not a criticism. Far from it: the whole point is to give the singers room for extravagant display, that being the dramatic mode. It's all very well to complain that Rossinian bel conto allows no character development, but that's not what the composer was after. As Rossini stacks up the 15-minute spans of music, the notes tumble forth in gorgeous profusion, and every one of the characters (the term seems too emphatic) move from emotion to emotion, each aria embodying a different state, each

ensemble a conflict. But "development"? Hardly.

OPERA SEMIRAMIDE QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

Once you manage to get a grip on the usual array of treacheries, supernatural apparitions and mistaken identities, you could summarise the plot of Semiramide in a couple of sentences.

Premiered in 1823, Semiramide was the last opera that Rossini composed for Italy, and he went out with a bang: the opera is a summation of everything he had

achieved to that point, and makes the most extortionate demands on its singers. None of the soloists here emerged unscathed, but all of them attacked the music with an acute grasp of the peculiar dram that bel canto generates, while Grant Llewellyn, conducting like a man possessed, had a proper sense of the gradual accumulation of tension through those long, almost sexual spasms of melody. He bent orchestra and chorus to his will while paying minute attention to his soloists' vocal decorations. While there were rough spots, they mattered much less than the overall impact.

We were lucky to have Nelly Miricioiu as Semiramide. She has tremendous presence: even her walk to the centre of the platform carried dramatic weight, and concert performance is no obstruction to her imperious theatricality. Some of the colour drains from the lower reaches of her chest voice, but she cuts through the coloratura like a knife, embellishing the line with

tremendous flair. She was all but matched by Patricia Bardon who, in the trouser role of Semiramide's long-lost son, sang with poise, the mezzo voice weighted perfectly against Miri-

cioiu's soprano: their duets were the evenings highlight.

The opera's one out and out villain is the schemer Assur, and if George Emil Crasnaru's bass lacked a clean outline, he nevertheless radiated sulphurous malevolence, nowhere more so than in his hallucinatory mad scene.

Given that nobody seems likely to stage Rossini at his grandest, the capacity audience was clearly grateful for what proved to be one of Chelsea Opera Group's most successful evenings. Long may they flourish.

NICK KIMBERLEY



That's no way to treat a diva

TO THE left, the six women and two men of the Icelandic String Octet sat down in front of music stands on a raised. Lshaped dais before a ragged backcloth. To the right stooped the solitary Mark Bell, ready to operate pre-programmed backing tracks from a neat flight-cased rack of matt black electronic modules. Then came Bjork, dark-haired and in an expensive white party dress whose sleeves made Christmas snow-angel shapes as she raised her arms.

Björk is one of those artists who can do no wrong, invariably drawing anything from approving nods to wild adulation. She's a dance act; an indie trooper, an avant-garde Shirley Bassey; a fashion icon; a pop idol; and the quintessential video star for the Nineties. Whether she is swooning in expensive special effects, or flattened in unflattering monochrome, her girning features and jerky movements - at whatever point you press the play button - are screaming: "watch

But where many ideogenic front-persons fail on stage, Bjork has the trump card: she is a genuine, creative musi-

POP BJÖRK LONDON PALLADIUM

cian. And without any sense of compromise, she appears to view live performance both as an adventure and a chance to satisfy the fans with the familiar hits. On stage, the wonderful wayward instrument of her voice becomes more like a story-telling improvisation that can meld the histrionics of "Isobel" and the commentary of "Human Behaviour" into a bigger totality. She pointed out (in an interview with Louise Gray in The Wire) that only now after three solo albums does she have a sufficient quantity of "good enough" songs to draw from for a

major live gig. Björk roadshow relies entire- of hits, from "Hunter" to "Vily on the singer's perfor-mance skills to communicate. thrilled to the light show, but The lack of musical interplay between the twin "playback" poles of strings and machines that unique voice possesses. meant that endings were A version of this review often unsatisfactory, for example, but there were plenty of impressive moments: the

skeletal drum pattern for "Possibly Maybe", skipping go-go-ish beats and clever digital distortion woven into the overall collage of Björk's set. The string arrangements provided musical drama and some surprising reinterpretations of the older hits -

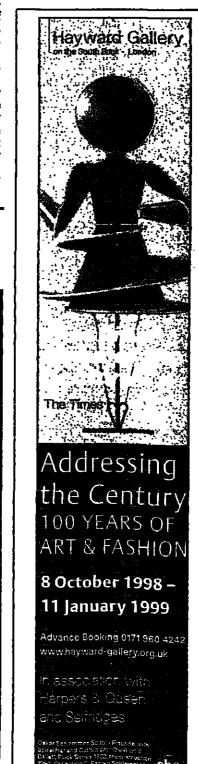
when you could hear them. You would think the Palladium's scale and kitschy charm ideal for the intimate electro-chamber pop that is Björk's forte. Unfortunately, the audience was punished by a cloth-eared sound mix better suited to a stadium rock gig or hangar-sized club, with low-end frequencies that would have been better spent demolishing chimneys.

As well as losing arrangement details and string timbres, the live sound managed to obscure too much of the main attraction - Björk her-The latest version of the self. We heard the full range we didn't really get to hear enough of the music which appeared in some editions of yesterday's paper.

JOHN L WALTERS Björk: impressive moments



Angela Lubrano



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He who lives by the score

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Elmer Bernstein has written some of the most famous film scores in history, not least those for The Great Escape and The Magnificent Seven. But what exactly is it that makes soundtrack music great? If anyone knows, Elmer will know. By Geoffrey Macnab

o, Elmer Bernstein confides, he does not hum the soundtracks to his own movies. The 76-year-old composer is responsible for some of the most catchy melodies in film history. His themes for The Magnificent Seven and The Great Escape are whistled the world over. He has scored over 200 films, from To Kill A Mockingbird to Cape Fear, but it is not necessarily his own work which gnaws away at him in his private mo-ments. "My bete noir is an album by my daughter, who is a songwriter. I just can't get it out of my head."

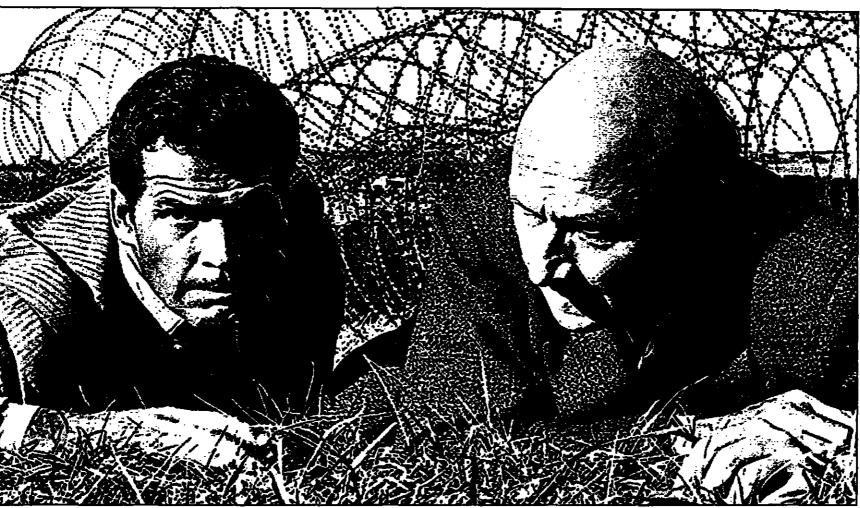
Bernstein was in Belgium recently to give a concert at the Flanders Film Festival, "a mélunge of music from The Age Of Innocence and The Magnificent Seven," he explains. His most recent movie, Twilight, starring Paul Newman and Susan Sarandon, is released this week. Last month, he also recorded an album of film songs with Neil Diamond. Several new features are also pencilled in on the horizon.

New York-born, he is nicknamed Bernstein West - as in West Coast and Hollywood - to distinguish him from his namesake, Leonard Bernstein, who was known as Bernstein East. A former student with Aaron Copland, he was grey-list-ed in the McCarthy era, which meant that in the early Fifties he was scoring Bmovies such as Robot Monster and Cat Women Of The Moon. His music for Otto Preminger's The Man With The Golden Arm (1956) marked him out as the most distinctive film composer of his generation. Since then, he has been Oscar-nominated 13 times.

He won't be drawn on what constitutes the perfect movie score but his views on certain key scores reveals much about what makes a soundtrack.

The Magnificent Seven (1960) Dir: John Sturges

Composer: Elmer Bernstein "Now we get to the question - should the audience notice the music? I really liked the film when I saw it without music. But it was on the slow side. That's alright in a highly personal story, but in an adventure, shoot-'em-up cowboy film, pace is was therefore to get on top of the film and to drive it along. Of course, in that kind of case, you do notice the music - and consider to be the most important ferent." attribute of the film composer. Assuming that the person can write music, which is not in fact always the case these days, what is most important is that he or she is a dramatist."



Main picture: the 'The Great Escape' for which Bernstein composed the classic soundtrack; below: 'The Magnificent Seven

The Devil and Daniel Webster (1941) Dir: William Dieterle

Composer: Bernard Herrmann "This isn't one of Herrmann's best-known titles but it had a great effect on my decision to become a film music composer. It was one of the earliest scores in the history of film music that had a peculiarly American voice. Herrmann fell back on a lot of folk music. If you think about who was writing film music in the United States in the Forties, the names that spring to mind are Miklos Rozsa, Franz Waxman, Max Steiner Dimitri Tiomkin - these are all peovery important. The function of the music ple who came from middle Europe, with a middle-European, symphonic sensibility. Along comes Bernard with a plaintive, less orchestrated American folk song idiom you're meant to. I'm often asked what I 📉 an American sensibility that was very dif-

> The Heiress (1949) Dir: William Wyler Composer: Aaron Copland This was Wyler's adaptation of the Henry



James novel, Washington Square. Aaron's was operated on a bit surgically, and not to was obviously very much an American voice, the advantage of the music. When I did The Unfortunately, his score, which was brilliant, Age Of Innocence for Scorsese, I went the takes your attention. You say, "whoo!"

Brahms. These jumped-up, up-market people in the States, well, what would they have been listening to in 1870? They'd have been listening to European music. Sunset Boulevard (1950)

other way - I went back to middle Europe.

That score is unashamedly related to

Dir: Billy Wilder Composer: Franz Warman; and Spellbound (1945) Dir. Alfred Hitchcock Composer: Miklos Rozsa

There's a tremendous sense of excitement Waxman's thing. It's the kind of music that keeps you on the edge of the seat. He did the same in Rebecco. A Waxman score is but sometimes inventive when you least expect it. The risk he took in Spellbound, using the theremin (one of the earliest electronic instruments) was brave at that time. He

The Man With The Golden Arm (1956) Dir: Otto Preminger

Composer: Elmer Bernstein

"The Man With The Golden Arm was the first film to use jazz as the main thrust of the entire score. Originally, I wanted to do the score as a concerto to camera for a small jazz group and a large symphony orchestra. As time went on, I decided a small jazz group wouldn't give me the power I needed. I went to speak to Preminger about it. He was a scary character I thought that he was simply going to throw me out of the office when I told him that what I had in mind was to do the entire score as a jazz-based score. But what he said was something very uncharacteristic for him. He told me that that was what I had been hired for, and that that is what I should go away and do."

Dir: James Cameron

Composer: James Horner

"There are a lot of my colleagues who, for some reason or another, are James Horner bashers. I'm not among them. He's a good composer and I think he has done some extraordinary things. I think that his score for Field Of Dreams is probably the best electronic score that has ever been written. But I didn't like Titanic. James's score wasn't really allowed to work in the film. Half of the time, you couldn't really hear it properly. It was drowned out. Luckily for him, the song survived, but that whole film feels very wrong-footed to me."

Kundun (1997) Dir: Martin Scorsese Composer: Philip Glass

"I was very taken with this score. It's interesting that I should be because I have a relationship with Scorsese and it was a film I had wanted to do myself. The basic effect of this kind of minimalism is mesmeric, and anything mesmeric begins to feel spiritual."

Twilight (1997)

Dir: Robert Benton Composer: Elmer Bernstein

"The best film music can do something which is maybe implicit in the film but not totally explicit. Twilight was an example of where the music is amplifying something implicit in the film. There is obviously a sexabout the Sunset Boulevard score. That was ual attraction between the two main characters, Susan Sarandon and Paul Newman. In the score, I try to imbue the entire sense of the film with a kind of sexuality. It's not very different from, say, a Miklos Rozsa – in your face all the time. It takes the form score. Rozsa is comfortable and satisfying. of the chord structure I use, which is slithery, rather than straightforward. All the sounds tend to be below Middle C in that throaty, sexy area. To me, one of the sexiest sounds in the world is the low end of a

THE INDEPENDENT COLLECTOR

JOHN WINDSOR'S GUIDE TO COLLECTING CONTEMPORARY ART: MICHELE DAVID



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AN ARTIST who pours paint on to a laid-flat canvas, you might assume, is a creator of abstracts. much in the manner of Jackson Pollock.

Michele David is an adept paint pourer. But a second glance at her seemingly abstract, colourful swirls and elaborate textures reveals that they are all faithfully drawn from nature.

Everybody has had the experience of gazing at a leaf, a tree, a rock or a cloud, and discovering that its name dissolves into abstract form. Japanese rock gardens use this phenomenon, inviting contemplatives to experience fluctuations between abstraction and hard reality. David's

paintings have a comparable

The 30-year-old Scottish artist, who lives in Shetland and whose current exhibition is at the Royal Scottish Academy in Edinburgh. has roamed the wildernesses of Australia and America, photographing the display of natural forms that takes place out of sight of man - the splashing and bubbling, growth,

decay and oozing of sap. Back in her studio, within sight of the sea, she lays the canvas flat and imitates nature thin washes of green and blue oil paint splash and bleed into one another, creating the depths and shallows of the ocean, or the efflorescence of algae. Small

quantities of real sand or plaster coalesce on the canvas, their grains forming shoals and shores stretching into the distance.

Her close-ups of decaying seaweed or tree trunks, divested of scale, can appear momentarily as monumental, abstract forms, before darting back to their true identity. But, she says, "they are all completely figurative".

She says of her painting of a bloodwood tree trickling red sap in the Australian bush: "The trunk is so close up that at first you've no idea what it is. But the realism has not diminished - it has simply been abstracted from its

She used glue, overpainted, for the sap. "People came in and said 'What's that?' because it looked abstract. I felt I was painting something weird and yet it was true to nature. I loved it.'

Not all her paintings play such tricks. Her trees look like trees, however long you look at them. She spent five years painting

Shetland's rock pools. Queensland Coast, painted this year and shown left, is an estuary viewed from the air that, to some, could be a rock pool. The prickly vegetation on the land, made from stippled, overpainted plaster, could be either big trees or tiny plants. The bright greeny-blue

submerged sandbank on the left is real sand.

She painted the dark blue

depths first, then the tide came in – a liquid blue-green wash overpainted with eddies from a dryish brush after the canvas had dried and been stood upright on an easel. "There is a fine line," she says, "between preserving the initial spontaneity of a painting and working into it."

In her current show of paintings of America, "Yellowstone: Fireholes and Acid Springs", geysers spout, and mud pots bubble with lethal. brightly-coloured sulphur. Ribbons of bacteria surge white, yellow, orange, according to the temperature around the

boiling springs. "I haven't overdone the colours", she says: "that's what they are."

David, who graduated from Glasgow School of Art. won the Villiers David prize for travel abroad in 1996. She has held several residencies at schools of art. Her paintings, on show to 16 Dec at the Royal Scottish Academy (0131-225 6671), were produced as a result of winning this year's Alastair Salvesen Trust Art Scholarship: exhibition prices - from £850 for 20in by 30in paintings to £2,400 for 5ft by 5ft 6fns. Colour photographs, 18in by 12ins, £60. She is терresented by the Beтkeley Square Gallery (0171-493 7939)

More hit than myth

MANTEGNA TO RUBENS
DRIWINGS FROM LIVERSOOKS WELD-BIS NEED: COLLECTION Until 10 January 1999 Monday - Saturday 10-5 Sunday 12-6

THOUGH HAYDN is often praised for his musical humour, it's not generally known that he also set cryptic crossword clues to music. Take, for example, the soprano aria "On mighty pens uplifting soars the eagle", from his oratorio The Creation, premiered two ment is not without its 18thcenturies ago this year. Pens is century periphrasis: "the a three-letter synonym for scaly fry that lave in his green wings. To get the connection, wave" is quite a mouthful. try pens, or quills, from old In general, though, there is English pinne, from Latin penna, meaning feathers.

The text for The Creation is knotted with this kind of infeheity, which perhaps explains an excellent venue for a revival why Anne Hunter, wife of of her version, given as part of Haydn's friend, the famous the St Ceciliatide Internation-English surgeon John Hunter, al Festival of Music, directed by made her own version of these Penelope Rapson. This was famous words. Whether the billed as the first performance composer ever saw it, or ap- on period instruments, and it proved, remains unclear How- was given by Fiori Musicali, ever, it came to light some years ago, and was first per- their choir and orchestra into formed in 1993 by a choir and one end of the hall. Though the

CLASSICAL THE CREATION STATIONERS' HALL LONDON

context".

of medics. Hunter's arrangenothing it lacks in clarity that is any less opaque in the standard libretto.

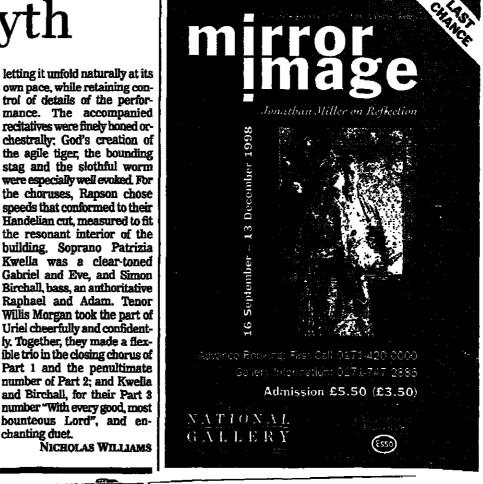
The Stationers' Hall proved who just managed to squeeze orchestra consisting largely forces used were small, with

only three soloists, and brass letting it unfold naturally at its and timpani high up in the own pace, while retaining congallery, there was plenty of his- trol of details of the perfortorical precedent for doing it mance. The accompanied this way. Some of the playing in the famous opening depiction of chaos sounded authentic in other ways, though tuning and ensemble improved as the evening progressed, and the joy of Haydn's tone-painting was especially marked in the clarity of the hall's acoustic.

The details of its standard text excepted, The Creation is a work of wonderfully artful simplicity. The score contains music that is mature Haydn at his finest, and the structure, though a straightforward telling of the myth, ends with a sense of profound satisfaction, not least because we hear its radiant close against the knowledge that things in the garden did not turn out well, despite the praise and glory. Penelope Rapson gave an

recitatives were finely honed orchestrally; God's creation of the agile tiger, the bounding stag and the siothful worm were especially well evoked. For the choruses, Rapson chose speeds that conformed to their Handelian cut, measured to fit the resonant interior of the building. Soprano Patrizia Kwella was a clear-toned Gabriel and Eve, and Simon Birchall, bass, an authoritative Raphael and Adam. Tenor Willis Morgan took the part of Uriel cheerfully and confidently. Together, they made a flexible trio in the closing chorus of Part 1 and the penultimate number of Part 2; and Kwella and Birchall, for their Part 3 number With every good, most

chanting duet. NICHOLAS WILLIAMS



unforced reading of the work,

HEALTH

Reflexologists say they can alleviate symptoms of PMS, asthma and anxiety by massaging pressure points on the feet. There is no scientific evidence to support this complementary treatment, but its popularity grows. Professor Edzard Ernst continues his series

Footloose and pain-free

eflexology goes back ogists also believe that treatment to a form of treatment developed by the Indian tribes of North America. In recent years, it has become one of the most popular complementary therapies. About 6.000 therapists practise in the UK at present and this number is grow-Reflexologists describe their

therapy as the "practice of working on reflexes in such a way as to produce a relaxation and response in the corresponding body regions. By applying controlled pressure with the thumbs or index fingers to the reflex points and areas on the feet, the body is stimulated to achieve its own state of equilibrium and good health. Pressure on the reflexes not only affects the organ or region of the body but it also influences the relationship between the different functions, processes

The foot, ear, hand, back and other body locations are believed to represent "holographic reiterations of the anatomy of the body," or a "perfect microcosm or miniature map of the whole body," or a "scanner screen-recording bodily functions." Maps were drawn up where one particular area of the foot's sole is assumed to represent one particular internal organ or organ system. These maps are based on the assumption that 10 "energy zones" run longitudinally through the body. Each foot has five of these lines, and all body organs are believed to lie along one or more of these lines.

Treatment aims at breaking down total bill of something in the region an adjunctive and symptomatic the deposits so that they can be re- of £1,000 per patient per year may absorbed and eliminated. Reflexol not be exceptional.

can improve blood flow and that reflex points are nerve receptors whose stimulation will induce "deep relaxation" or emit "impulses to all parts of the body." Other hypotheses involve the lymphatic system, suggesting that the body's waste products are removed through reflexology massage, and the general enhancement of the body's inherent balance. All of these theories are unsubstantiated. A scientific rationale for reflexology simply does not exist.

By searching for "blockages" or increased areas of sensitivity on the foot, reflexologists also diagnose diseases or organ malfunctions. A positive finding in the reflex zone of the kidney, for instance, would imply to a reflexologist that the patient suf-fers from kidney disease. As with most other complementary diagnostic techniques (Box 1), there is no evidence to support the validity f such diagnoses.

What happens during a reflexology session?

■ The reflexologist would normally take a short case history of the patient; few will carry out an actual conventional physical examination. Patients are then asked to lie down and show their feet. Treatment usually consists of palpating and massaging the feet. Sometimes other parts of the body, such as the hands, are also treated. Reflexology can be mildly painful, but it is normally agreeable and also intensely relaxing.



Palpating and massaging the feet can be mildly painful, but it is normally agreeable and intensely relaxing

■ The list of "indications" given by enthusiasts is long (see Box 2) and there is a worrying lack of agreement between various authors on the subject. Some of the more surprising "indications" are appendicitis, high-blood pressure, cirrhosis of the liver, common cold. diabetes, hernia, infertility, jaundice, pneumonia, tumours and whiplash injuries. According to a fairly recent survey, the most frequently treated conditions are the Prices can vary between £30 and following: back problems, ten-£40 for one 30-minute session. Six to sion/stress, migraine/ headaches, 12 treatments per series are usually sinusitis, arthritis, neck/shoulder malfunctioning organ or body sys- recommended. Thus, the total costs pains, digestive problems. Of these, tem leads to deposits of uric acid or for one series of treatments can be tension/stress, back problems and calcium crystals. These, in turn, im- up to £240. Since reflexologists usu- migraine/headache were said to pinge on the nerve endings on the ally treat chronic conditions that respond best. In most (if not all) feet or obstruct the lymph flow. often require repeated attention, a cases, reflexology is advocated as

treatment, and not purely as a cure

WHAT ARE the benefits of ex-

ercise cycles, and for whom's

Exercise cycles provide aero

bic exercise, which is good for

example of these men.

ling will improve the strength

of the leg bones. Exercise is

also a potent way of reducing

anxiety and depression. So an

exercise cycle is beneficial in

many ways. Compared with

riding a real bicycle, there is the

added benefit of not having to

contend with car drivers.

CLINICAL TRIALS

CONDITION RESULT ■ Anxiety Positive ■ Headache Negative Asthma Negative ■ Post-op treatment

Positive

based on evidence from controlled groups, a precondition that is reclinical trials. In fact, only very few quired before accepting results such studies have been published The only conditions for which encouraging trial data exists are anx- What are the potential risks? iety and pre-menstrual syndrome. In

COMPLEMENTARY TECHNIQUES

■ Applied kinesiology shown to be unreliable by at least one research group ■ Bioresonance - shown to be unreliable in the majority of

■ Iridology – shown to be unreliable by at least four Kirlan photography – not

research groups ■ Vega test – shown to be unreliable by most tests

scientifically proven and

evidence is contradictory

scientifically proven and

evidence is contradictory

■ Reflexology - shown to be

unreliable by two independent

Radionics – not

as reliable.

No adverse effects of reflexology

both cases, the studies have not been are on record. The treatment is.

contra-indicated in conditions such as heart problems or shingles. This obviously carries risks. Furthermore, considerable harm can be caused by using reflexology as a diagnostic tool: it is likely that some healthy individuals will be declared

ill, while some diseased people will

be pronounced healthy. In the most extreme cases, this may result in the In conclusion

Reflexology is popular, usually perceived as relaxing and, as a therapy, carries few risks. Unfortunately, there is as yet no truly convincing evidence that it is specifically effective for any medical conditions. The diagnosis of disease through reflexology is also likely to cause harm. This, unfortunately, applies to several diagnostic techniques that are used in com-

Association of Reflexologists. 19 Benson Road, Henfield BN5 9HY

For further reading, 'The Reflexology Handbook' by Norman L. The

Pain in the buttocks

DURING TWO pregnancies over the last four years I developed a painful form of acne over my buttocks. This has now happened again. though I'm not pregnant. It makes swimming in public impossible, and rather dents one's libido. My husband urges me to see my GP, but I couldn't bear the embarrassment. Is there anything I can do about it?

Pregnancy sometimes causes strange skin rashes and itches. but not usually painful acne. This type of rash could be caused by an infection, bacterial. viral or even fungal. Another possibility is a rare condition called dermatitis herpetiformis. which is related to coeliac disease. Coeliac disease is made worse by eating foods that contain gluten, such as wheat, and if you are absolutely insistent that you will not see a doctor about this, you could try cutting gluten out of your diet to see A QUESTION OF HEALTH



whether this helps - but it may take many months before there A few other ideas are: try an anti-fungal cream such as

Canesten which you can obtain fer the embarrassment of showing the rash to a GP or dermatologist.

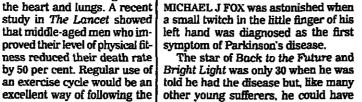
from any chemist; use an antibacterial skin wash such as Betadine Skin Cleanser. But in the end, it may be better to suf-

YOU RECENTLY suggested "a diet that includes at least five portions of fresh fruit and vegetables a day". How big is a portion? Without a definition, how can I know if I am eating too little, or too much? A medium-sized apple or banana is a single portion. This usually weighs 125-150g. The same applies to other fruits or vegetables. Don't worry about having too much. Within reason, the more you eat, the better.

Please send questions to A Question of Health, 'The Independent', 1 Canada Square Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL: fax 0171-293 2182; or e-mail to health@independent.co.uk. Dr Kavalier cannot respond personally to questions

It turns your world upside down

But new drugs bring increased hopes for younger Parkinson's sufferers. By Roger Dobson



other young sufferers, he could have

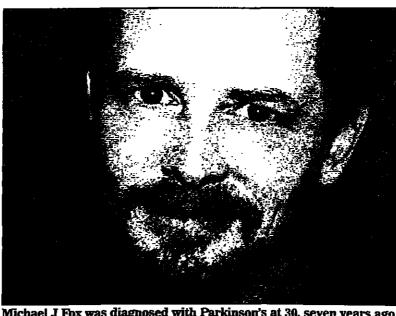
been forgiven for believing that Parkin-Exercise cycles also strengson's affects only older people. then muscles and improve cir-But new research shows that alculation in the legs. Any though most sufferers are aged over 60. exercise that puts a stress on one in 20 of them will get the disease the bones is a useful way of prewhen they are under 40, and the incurventing osteoporosis, and cyc-

able condition has been diagnosed in patients as young as 23. A growing realisation that younger people are getting the disease, and an awareness that the incidence of Parkinson's is increasing because of the ageing population, have both given added

impetus to research This month a new drug, which has been shown in trials to combat tremor as well as other symptoms, with few side-effects, is being launched in Britain; other drugs are in the pipeline; the scope and range of brain surgery for controlling symptoms is increasing, too.

Although Parkinson's was first described as a disease in 1817, its causes are still not fully understood and there is as yet no sign of a cure. Latest thinking is that some people may be born with a genetic predisposition to the disease and that it is triggered in them as a result of exposure to a toxin in the environment, or to a virus.

Whatever this trigger may be, and theories have ranged from insecticides to herpes-type viruses, the result is the loss from the brain of dopamine, a chemical involved in a range of tasks including movement control and coordination. The loss of dopamine can result in tremor, muscle rigidity, slowed motion, a shuffling gait, dizziness, to wear off and can result in the patient speech problems, reduced body lang- suffering sudden, violent movements.



Michael J Fox was diagnosed with Parkinson's at 30, seven years ago

uage and loss of facial expression. These symptoms get worse over time.

New research by the European Parkinson's Disease Association has found that it is the tremor, the symptom most difficult to control with drugs, that is a major everyday problem for eight out of 10 sufferers.

For many, the twitch or tremor is also the first symptom of the degenerative disease. This involuntary movement usually begins in the hands and increases in intensity with anxiety. Over time it can also start to affect the arms and legs.

Many other symptoms can be tackled by drugs, but most have side effects. Levadopa, for instance, one of the most widely prescribed drugs, helps restore dopamine levels for a time, then begins

One of the main problems with existing drugs is that that although they prolong life, the side-effects can affect the quality. The issue of adverse effects from long-term use is heightened in cases where the patient is at the lower

When you give them dopamine it reverses the clock and can put them back to normal," says Professor Leslie Findley, a consultant neurologist who is vicechairman of the Parkinson's Disease Society in the UK, and medical adviser to the National Tremor Foundation. There is usually a good response for four or five years, but then they start having problems.

end of the age range for the disease.

"So in younger patients we are tending to delay treatment with drugs such as levadopa and to use reduced doses. There is a real need for doctors to consider new therapies that will prolong the window of effective treatment for people with Parkinson's."

One new drug, Mirapexin, is coming on to the market this month, and clinical trials have shown that it significantly improves the tremor symptoms.

"Mirapexin seems to be well tolerated with few side effects, and may prove to be a significant pharmacological advance," says Professor Findlay.

Surgery is also undergoing something of a renaissance. Traditionally it has been the tremor alone that has been removed, by creating a lesion in the right place inside the brain, but specialists are now looking at working on other areas of the brain for relieving symptoms such as slowness and loss of balance.

Many specialists now believe it unlikely that there will ever be a cure that will reverse the process and remove all the different symptoms. "A lot of us are thinking much more about preventive action. It may be that one day we will be able to pick up those that are genetically vulnerable and be able to take some kind of action to stop it from ever developing," adds Professor Findley.

For those who already have the disease, such as Michael J Fox, the emphasis is on prolonging life and maintaining its quality, by drugs or surgery, or both. The New York-based actor, now 37. who has already undergone one session of surgery to try to control his tremor, says that the disease has turned his world upside down, and he recognises that maintaining quality of life will be increasingly important.

"It's made me stronger, a million times wiser and more compassionate," he says. "I've realised I'm vulnerable, and that no matter how many awards I'm given or how big my bank balance is, you can be messed with like this. The end of the story is, you die. So accepting all that, the issue then becomes one about quality of life."

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Bobbie Knighton has two healthy children, Charles, six and Georgina, four. Her third baby suffered from spina bifida, caused by folic acid deficiency during pregnancy

*Why we need flour power

Adding folic acid to flour could reduce birth defects. So why hasn't it happened? By Annabel Ferriman

third pregnancy. She ate a good diet, gave up alcohol and conscientiously attended all her antenatal check-ups. Her blood test at 18 weeks was normal,

So when she went for her routine ultrasound scan at 20 weeks she was in a positive mood. Her daughter Georgina, now four, was particularly excited at the prospect of having a little brother or sister.

During the scan, however, the radiographer fell silent and took an exceptionally long time, checking every measurement. She then told Sobbie and her husband that something was seriously wrong with the baby, and that she would have

to fetch the consultant. Within 15 minutes, the Knightons, who live in Baldock, Hertfordshire, were given the news that their child - a girl - had severe spina bifida, a defect in which part of the spinal column fails to develop completely, leaving the spinal cord exposed. The baby also had a misshapen head, which suggested that she was suffering from hydrocephalus (water on the brain).

Mrs Knighton went into hospital the next day for a termination. The labour lasted almost 24 hours and was much worse than my previous labours," she says, "because my body was not ready to deliver the baby. Mother Nature was telling

me to hold on. The experience was horrific. Part of me died that day. We named

super-fit during her her. We had a service for her and planted a rose tree in her memory.

"We have delayed having any more children because we were frightened of having another child out of grief."

prevented. Scientists discovered as long ago as 1991 - five years before Mrs Knighton's pregnancy that if mothers increased their intake of folic acid (a vitamin occurring in liver, green leafy vegetables and certain other foods) around the time of conception their risk of having a baby affected by spina bifida could be reduced by two-thirds.

Yet today, more than seven years later, the spectre of spina bifida is still haunting many pregnancies. More than 1,000 women a year in the UK discover that they are carrying a baby affected by a neural tube defect (mainly spina bifida and hydrocephalus) and about 850 of them go through a traumatic and painful termination.

An obvious solution to the problem was put forward in the British Medical Journal in 1995 by Nicholas Wald, professor of environmental and preventive medicine at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, who suggested that flour manufacturers should be required to fortify flour with folic acid to ensure that all women of child-bearing age consume a high enough dose to reduce the risk.

Flour is already fortified with calcium, iron, niacin and thiamine, so adding one more vitamin would not

obbie Knighton felt the baby Ellen, and we both held be such a big step. The then-Conservative government, however. decided to opt for a less interventionist policy. It mounted a publicity campaign to persuade women to

increase their intake of folic acid. That campaign has now come to One of the tragedies of this case an end, and, despite having won an tional prize from the World Health Organisation, it has not yet had the desired effect. It cost more than £2.3m and there is no evidence that it has significantly reduced the number of affected pregnancies.

the Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus (Asbah). "There is enough known about

the safety of folic acid for the Government to require millers to put folic acid into flour just as the Food and Drug Administration in has done since January."

That is a view with which many specialists concur. Dr Richard Smith, editor of the BMJ, recommended the same thing in his

During the scan, the radiographer fell silent and took an exceptionally long time, checking every measurement...

most at risk of having a baby with spina bifida are those who eat a diet lacking in natural vitamins and these are the same women who are the least likely to have heard of the campaign. Also, half of all pregnancies are unplanned, so most women do not start taking a supplement, such as iron or folic acid. until after a positive pregnancy test, by which time it is too late to prevent neural tube defects. Even well-educated women like Mrs Knighton often do not start taking it until two months into pregnancy.

"The current strategy of encouraging women to take supplements does not reach those women

The reason is simple: the women Edwin Chadwick lecture on public health last month and Dr Patricia Troop, director of public health for the Anglia and Oxford Region, believes that a majority of regional public health directors also favour it. Professor Richard Smithells, a retired professor of paediatrics at Leeds University, who was the first person to prove a connection between maternal folic acid intake and neural tube defects, back in 1965, also wants to see folic acid routinely added to flour.

So why hasn't it happened? In the early Nineties, the philosophy of the government was to blame. It adopted an approach of

who become pregnant accidentally," said Tony Britton, spokesman for 1997 the incoming Labour government appointed the first-ever minister of public health, and things looked likely to change.

Professor Sir John Grimley Evans, who chairs the government's subgroup on folic acid, and is a member of the Comm the Medical Aspects of Food (Coma), says there are two important reasons why the decision to

fortify flour has been delayed. "First, there is concern about the interaction between folic acid and permicious anaemia, a condition caused by a deficiency of vitamin B12, which can lead to neural damage. If people who are developing pernicious anaemia take too much folic acid, it can mask the anaemia, but lead to neurological damage before its true cause - vitamin B12 de-

ficiency- is discovered." Professor Wald believes that this problem can be overcome by teaching doctors to diagnose pernicious anaemia with greater clinical precision, while other experts believe the proposed level of folic acid enrichment would not be

enough to cause problems. The Government's subgroup on folic acid is expected to clear up doubts in this area shortly.

Unfortunately, the issue has more recently been clouded by research into other effects of folic acid. Scientists have discovered new evidence suggesting that if adults increase their intake of folic acid, they may reduce their risk of cardiovascular disease. The

dietary supplements instead. But in are now wondering whether this matter should be clarified before making any recommendation on fortifying food.

"There has not been a controlled trial to show that giving folic acid reduces cardiovascular disease," Grimiey Evans.

"If flour were fortified with folic acid, it would be impossible to conduct such a trial in the UK, or to discover the ideal amount of folic acid to give," he explained, "because everyone would be consuming more in their diet."

Sir John admitted that a trial to clarify the effects of folic acid on cardiovascular disease could take 10-15 years to complete. "There are obviously some people to whom neural tube defects are the only things that matter," he pointed out. But we have to take to heart all the implications of fortifying food."

While academics puzzle over the new dilemma of folic acid and cardiovascular disease, more than 150 mothers a year will continue to give birth to babies with spina bifida and another 850 will go through the painful trauma of a late termination of a wanted baby.

Helen Brinton, MP for Peterborough, who has been campaigning on the issue, said. "It is really outrageous that the last government dragged its heels on this. How long will women have to wait?"

Antenatal Results and Choices (formerly Support Around Termination for Foetal Abnormality): raising awareness and encouraging Government's experts on folic acid telephone helpline 0171-631 0285

Patients need justice



JEREMY LAURANCE

WHAT HAS become of the health service ombudsman? The ultimate court of appeal for those dissatisfied with their treatment by the NHS - short of going to law - is itself generating an unprecedented volume of complaints.

Six consumer organisations have expressed their discontent with the office of Michael Buckley, the current holder of the post. The National Consumer Council, the Consumers Association and the Association for Improvements in Maternity Services all believe that the interests of patients are being overlooked in the drive for administrative efficiency.

The charge is that, at a time when complaints are rising to record levels, the number being investigated has fallen. In 1995-6 there were 229 investigations completed, in 1996-7 there were 238; but in 1997-8 the total dropped to 120. This fall has occurred just as the ombudsman's remit has been extended into two new areas clinical complaints and GPs.

The findings show the NHS under extreme pressure. Hospitals are operating so close to the limit of their capacity that when a clutch of emergencies occur at once they can find themselves unable to cope. One man dangerously ill with Legionnaire's disease waited six hours to be transferred to the intensive care unit of a neighbouring hospital, because no anaesthetist was free to insert a tube into his lungs so that he could be ventilated on the journey. However, the anaesthetists escaped criticism oecause an toree on duty were dealing with even sicker patients.

In a second case, a woman with liver cancer was denied an ultrasound test by her surgeon because he did not think anything could be done to save her. The ombudsman criticised the decision because it meant that the woman had been denied the chance of knowing the cause of her illness.

These cases should lead to improved NHS care - but only if they are investigated and publicised. The ombudsman's office says the apparent drop in its case load conceals extra work being done behind the scenes. More complaints are being settled informally with, in some cases, a simple phone call to the hospital involved, an apology and a promise to do better next time.

The argument is that a full formal investigation is neither necessary nor appropriate in every case. Often it is clear what happened, but the complainant has never had it explained in language they can understand. Settling complaints informally is a sensible use of people's time and speeds things up. Setting up a full investigation in every case would be "stupid and wasteful". Sensible as this sounds, the

ombudsman is appointed not only to ensure that justice is done, but to ensure that it is seen to be done. His responsibility does not end with satisfying the complainant; it includes ensuring that the lessons are learnt and errors are not repeated. Visibility is as important as impartiality. An informal procedure can work only if steps are taken to ensure that those beyond the immediate case learn from the mistakes. The on budsman must ensure that the work of his office

is open and transparent, and his

findings are widely circulated.

Is it your relationship that needs help – or you?

OBVIOUSLY DIVORCE often causes depression but what about the with a depressive member are other way around: could depression more disharmonious. A study that qually cause divorce? Certainly, followed 56 married depressives there is a simple correlation be over a two-year period found they tween the two. Rates of depression have risen tenfold since 1950 and divorce has quadrupled, but sorting But which comes first, the marital out cause from effect is not easy.

Ever since the 1960s it has been widely supposed that divorcing couples were incompatible and that each would be happier if they found someone more suitable. The possibility that one or both partners were simply depressed and thus impossible to live with has rarely been considered. Yet there is abundant evidence that a pre-existing. premarital disposition to depression destroys innumerable marriages.

Depressed partners are prone to be hostile, paranoid and aggressive with intimates, while often placid, compliant and pleasing to friends and colleagues. So it comes as no surprise that depressives are also hore likely to divorce. As the leading American depression researcher Myrna Weissman put it: "Marital relationships become an arena for the depression."

Researchers find that couples were nine times more likely to divorce than the general population. disharmony or the depression? There are two theories.

The first, dominant one pinpoints "marital incompatibility" as the cause. Troubled marriages are seen as the product of ineffectual communication patterns resulting from personal incompatibility.

The American psychologist John Gottman asked over 100 newlywed couples to pick a perennial bone of contention and videotaped their ensuing discussion. He found that the way they dealt with the problem predicted whether they were still together four years later. In this view, successful marriage is a case of finding the right person and making sure that destructive patterns of problem solving do not develop.

That this perspective became so popular during the period after 1965 when millions of dissatisfied **OLIVER JAMES**



BRITAIN ON THE COUCH

themselves if they were with the right partner may be no coincidence. Of course, unhappy mar-

riages can cause previously stable and well-adjusted individuals to develop depression but this view has become so dominant that the alternative has been almost totally forgotten: that emotional problems predating the marriage in one or both of the partners could cause the marital problems. In this view, there are people

whose personalities would have

put them at high risk of divorce who-

have followed a large sample from childhood to late adulthood. Only then would it be clear how much any emotional problems preceded the marriage. No studies have gone as far back as that but seven have tested the personalities of couples shortly before they married and followed up what happened to them

In all of these, premaritally depressed women were more likely to subsequently divorce than undepressed ones. One British study found that mild depression in girls at age 16 predicted subsequent increased risk of divorce. But the findings did not only apply to women.

Premaritally disordered men were also more at risk although their problems did not show up in the form of depression but as aggression. Lack of impulse control short temper, ill-considered deeds and words - in husbands predicted subsequent disharmony and divorce compared with men without these traits before marriage.

and women may reflect differences ever they had married. In order to in the way the genders express ag- sexes were more likely to have been husbands and wives were asking test the theory, a study would ideally gression. Women are more likely to premaritally depressed - men as paperback (Arrow, £7.99)

blame themselves when frustrated and angry whereas men blame others and launch attacks. Hence, depression is twice as common in women worldwide whereas men tend to deny they are depressed, and instead become aggressive. They are seven times more likely to commit violent crimes. But, interestingly, three-quar-

ters of convicted violent men become depressed when prevented from lashing out by imprisonment, a far higher proportion than men imprisoned for nonviolent crimes. Since most violent men are impulsive and since violence is the male method of expressing depression. the high divorce rate of impulsive men may ultimately be a sign that they are also depressive.

An eighth study, the most rigorous of the lot, supports the theory. It followed 300 married couples from before they had married in 1940, to 1980. Those who divorced were significantly more likely to have had emotional problems be-The differences between men fore they married than those who stayed married. Divorcees of both

well as women - and the divorced men were more likely to have lacked impulse control.

The authors concluded: "The husband's impulsiveness and the depressiveness of both spouses are potent predictors of negative marital outcomes... in marital relationships, depression acts to bring about distress, and the other traits of the husband help to determine whether the distress is brought to a head (in divorce) or suffered passively (in a stable but unsatisfactory marriage)."

Of course there is such a thing as incompatibility. But more often than not, both partners will benefit from looking hard at their own pathology before blaming the relationship and splitting up only to repeat the same pattern later. Much more often than is currently supposed, it is the individual and not The Relationship that needs treatment.

Oliver James's book Britain On The Couch - Why We're Unhappier Compared With 1950 Despite Being Richer, is now available in

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HEALTH CLINICS

Peace of mind from the UK's leading

MEDIA

Have we got (no) news for you

he furore surrounding ITV's successful campaign to ditch its flagship News at Ten has meant that the efforts of those who run Britain's most-watched commercial station to downgrade their commitment to network news has not exactly gone unnoticed. But their equally successful strategy to denude ITV of serious current affairs has provoked little uproar because it has been done more slowly and stealthily. The combined effect, however. is producing a significant shift in the country's television culture: as of next year, prime-time ITV becomes a no-go area for mainstream news and current affairs. This change marks the end of

ITV's pretensions still to be regarded as a public-service broadcaster and calls into question whether its lapdog regulator, the Independent Television Commission (ITC), has any further purpose. For viewers it means that those who wish to follow current affairs in more depth and with more rigour than superficial tabloid values allow will henceforth have to depend almost entirely on the BBC - a broadcasting monopoly which is hardly healthy for a vibrant democracy.

Those of us who have followed ITN's long and troubled relations with its ITV paymasters are not sur-prised by the demise of News at Ten. It is widely known that ITV tried to kill it in 1993 and was only stopped by some heavyweight disapproval from the then prime minister. What has been forgotten in an industry with short memories is that ITV never wanted News at Ten in the first place.

When News at Ten was launched in the late Sixties on the back of the successful move to half-hour, primetime newscasts by the American networks, it had to be forced on the ITV companies by the then regulator, the IBA. Even reluctant ITV bosses insisted on a short trial period of several weeks; they hoped to kill it off after that. It was only because the fledgling news programme proved to be such a ratings and critical success that they became reconciled to its survival (and the BBC quickly launched a halfhour news of its own).

But news has never been a prigional panjandrums of commercial TV were happy to dine out on the nu- to watch. merous industry awards to ITN and to bask in its international reputation. For a long period, under the editorship of David Nicholas and with Alastair Burnet as its main anchorman, ITN was widely regarded as more authoritative and innovative than anything BBC news had to offer.

But ITV kept it on a tight budget.

THE NEIL REPORT

ANDREW NEIL

distinctive documentary strand despite the great brand name and, unlike the US networks, steadfastly refused to market and promote news as an integral and essential part of the schedule. Even as ITV ses were bemoaning the recent slip in News at Ten's ratings as TV channels have proliferated, they did nothing to revive them through on-air and print promotion of the programme and its presenters. Perhans they feared that such marketing would be too successful.

The main regional ITV baronies in London, Birmingham and Manchester resisted ITN's wish to di-

The death of 'News at Ten' comes at a time when there is no longer any regular serious current affairs on ITV

versify into documentaries and current affairs because it would have been competition for their own network offerings. And, as long as Granada was making World in Action and Thames producing This Week - both broadcast at peak viewing times - viewers in search of serious current affairs were not necessarily cheated. But the death of News at Ten comes at a time when there is no longer any regular serinot at a time when most of us want

This Week, which used to provide weekly commentary and analysis on mainstream politics, no longer exists. The various - and increasingly tabloid - offerings which replaced it have all bombed (and none had the serious purpose of This Week). World in Action has survived - and never allowed it to develop its own of relentless dumbing down: its grammes in America).

hard-edged investigative journalism has given way to a tabloid agenda, with much emphasis on consumer concerns and stunts (its current contribution to the devolution debate has been to ask actors to wear anti-Scottish T-shirts in Glasgow to test the reaction).

I had a huge row with This Week over its flawed "Death on the Rock" documentary, and the relentless left-wing bias of World in Action used to grate (though it once did a wonderful exposé of Gerry Adams' terrorist past). But nobody could deny they were quality programmes with a serious purpose. Nothing like them now exists anywhere on ITV's network schedules.

Indeed, ITV can no longer be bothered to provide live Budget coverage, it is increasingly reluctant to interrupt its regular entertainment shows with breaking news coverage and it has lost all interest in live coverage of important national events, unless they are surefire ratings winners, like the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales. The network's sole contribution to serious discussion of mainstream politics, Jonathan Dimbleby, is buried in the Sunday lunchtime slot and, though professionally presented, lacks the impact or authority of its predecessors, Weekend World and Brian Walden (both of which were broadcast just before Sunday lunch rather than during it).

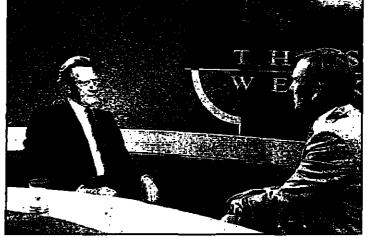
This is a pathetic state of affairs for a network that still claims it adheres to public-service obligations in order to protect its position as the nation's premier commercial channel. The excuse most commonly trotted out by those who control it is that the government has made TV so competitive, with new channels springing up all over the place, that it can no longer afford to broadcast current affairs programmes with limited appeal in prime time. This is self-serving nonsense.

The American commercial networks face far greater competition than ITV (over 70 per cent of US homes are multi-channel, compared with around 20 per cent in Britain) yet they manage to provide a more considerable diet of network news and current affairs while their local affiliates all provide substantial local news programming.

No major US network would fail ority for those who run ITV. The re- ous current affairs on ITV, at least to broadcast live the President's state of the union address or other important national events. All regularly interrupt their schedules with breaking news. They spend substantial sums pronuding their news programmes and their anchors. Sunday morning is wall-to-wall political discussion. And news magazine shows increasingly dominate prime-time ratings (four of them are at peak time - but only at the cost among the 20 most-watched pro-







'World in Action' (top) has turned to a tabloid agenda, dealing with issues such as pet food, and Jonathan Dimbleby's Sunday current affairs' programme (above left) does not match the journalistic depth of 'This Week' (above right)

seted from market forces than any this, despite making profits of over £400m last year. Clearly, the problem ulation: its traditions are also being undermined by the priorities of those who control it.

style news magazine at 10pm as a bled by the ITV companies. The ITC latory capture": those doing the

ITV, which remains far more cos- unable to popularise without trivialising. The suspicion remains that US network, can manage none of it has scrapped News at Ten to make way for more uplifting programmes like the recently-broadcast Vice: The at ITV is not just the failure of reg- Sex Trade, which no supposedly vulgar mainstream US network would dream of showing.

ITV is able to get away with all They promise a weekly American- this because the ITC has been nob-

of TV and populated by bureaucrats bosses would appear live on BBC2's Newsnight recently (so much for public accountability) to defend the end of News at Ten, the ITC's director of programmes obligingly stepped in to put ITV's case.

In America it is known as "regu-

This is all done in America with- sop to critics but, unlike the US net- is a shadow of its former self, run by regulating end up in thrall to the out the cajoling of a regulator. Yet works, British television seems an unknown and undistinguished powerful commercial interests they businessman with little experience are supposed to be controlling. But now that the ITC has sold the pass who do ITV's bidding. When no ITV on ITV's public-service obligations. it is difficult to divine any purpose in the further squandering of taxpayers' money on a lame-duck television regulator.

> Andrew Neil is the editor-inchief of 'Sunday Business' and 'The Scotsman'

The original lads' magazine is in need of reloading

YOU HAVE to feel sorry for Derek Harbinson, who was the editor of Loaded until last week when he was replaced by one of the founders of the magazine.

There he was, quietly editing a ket that 20 per cent growth just does magazine which, since his high-profile predecessor James Brown left last year, has increased sales by 20 per cent. A 20-per-cent sale increase in a year should be anybody's idea of success, and enough to safeguard your job, but it seems not. Harbinson put on a brave face last week and maintained that: "There are other things I want to do with my career and it's true to the Loaded spirit to go out on a high."

But it is beyond doubt that the magazine's owner, IPC, and his replacement, former deputy editor have brought him back after he had and founder Tim Southwell, seem a serious falling out with the comto see things slightly differently.

"I feel the magazine has been treading water for the last year-anda-haif," says Southwell. "It has been lacking urgency and lacking any sense of surprise. I want to put that back. I want to get back to the core editorial principles - which is that just about anything can happen in the pages of Loaded."

What has happened to Loaded in revolutionising the men's magazine market, it has been overtaken and left looking stale. The copycats at Emap's FHM now sell 775,000 magazines a month, compared with Loaded's 456,373. And Loaded's original fantastic growth has slowed, even when compared with the poorest of the imitators. Even Dennis Publishing's Maxim put on 63 per cent growth last year. So rapidly growing is the men's mar- the magazine. He felt advertising when the company refused to sell

ANALYSIS PAUL MCCANN

not cut it.

Southwell says that the magazine has been putting "nobodies" on its cover and has started to look increasingly like an also-ran. "We have been letting the readers down and I want to put the Loaded ethos back into every single page. I am lation, but I haven't been given any specific targets." Southwell should be the man to

do it, but it is a sign of how desperate IPC is for a change that they pany. Southwell was with James Brown in Barcelona watching Leeds United when the idea for Loaded was developed. That is to say it developed straight out of a night's drinking, watching football and chatting up women.

He became deputy editor before the launch in 1993, and by the time he left in November 1996, he was editing more and more of the magthe last two years is, that despite azine during Brown's increasing absences from the magazine.

"Tim has never had the credit for what he put into Loaded," says the editorial director of a rival magazine group. "He was there right at the beginning and there an awful lot more at the end."

According to his book on Loaded - Getting Away With It - Southwell was getting increasingly disenchanted with IPC's management of



'Loaded' - not selling enough

was squeezing his good ideas and the company was refusing to expand the title into new countries. He was also falling out more and more with James Brown.

He eventually left and six months later James Brown departed to edit Condé Nast's GQ. Southwell, meanwhile, was working on a dummy magazine with the working title of The Player, which was to be a title for wannabe high-rollers; a kind of Fortune magazine with attitude. After much work, IPC decided not to go with it and Southwell left the company looking for someone else to back the idea. His dissatisfaction with IPC increased

him the rights to the idea he had developed. He wrote his book about the magazine, which is less than flat-

tering about IPC management. Well, they approached me." says Southwell, indicating that he and IPC have made up. "They gave me time to think about it - the more I thought about it, the more excited I got." Southwell, it seems, is the true Loaded believer and could not turn down the opportunity of rescuing his baby: "I just want to get the staff back to thinking for themselves - to give it more bite and more attitude. It was always driven by madcap ideas - a combination of the Double Deckers and Carry On Publishing - and I just want it to have more extreme ideas."

Southwell is known to want to make the magazine more sophisticated - perhaps more like his work on The Player. This would be the direct opposite of what Derek Harbinson was doing, and might also be the direct opposite of what the rest of the market is doing.

The problem for Southwell is that when Loaded was at its editorial peak, nothing much was expected of it. IPC's management left it well alone and the editorial team could spend all day in the pub coming up with a feature as inspired as "The Crisp Olympics" - which was a kind of taste play-off between

But since then, IPC has been bought out from its parent, Reed-Elsevier, and Loaded is a very large money-maker for the company. Southwell might just find that "madcap" and "crucial revenue earner" are not phrases to trip happily from his finance director's tongue.

different salty snacks.

SEVERAL INTRIGUING issues arise out of Channel 4's Hard News special on The Guardian's investigation into whether the Cariton documentary, The Connection, was in fact a fake (brief summary: the mule may or may not have been a mule, but the producer of The Connection was clearly a complete ass). Hard News broadly agrees with The Guardian that The Connection misled viewers, which is not what programme makers are supposed to do at all. So clearly there will be no welcome mat for them outside Channel 4's glass and chrome revolving door. Er, not exactly. The wonderfully benevolent head of news and current affairs, David Lloyd, says that he would not necessarily banish The Connection producer, Marc de Beaufort, from his threshold. "I'd like to think my door is never closed," Lloyd says. The programme's executive producer, Roger James, has already done rather better out of Lloyd and

landed a job. James is filling a similar role on a new Channel 4 series about the EU called inside Europe, to be made by the team responsible for the landmark Town Hall. "It's strictly observational," says a Channel 4 spokestype. So that's alright then,

YOU MIGHT have seen a story in the newspapers vesterday about two female college friends in their early twenties who died of carbon monoxide poisoning from a faulty gas boiler at a Shropshire B&B. The headline used by a local press agency to alert the hungry national press on Sunday? "Dead and breakfast."

AND NOW over to Sue Lawley for the BBC Review of the Year. It is just the sort of programme (in the increasing absence of access to anything live) that the corporation



THE WORD ON THE STREET

does terribly well - lots of fine archive footage, slickly edited and overlaid with some achingly appropriate soundtrack (we're currently running a sweep on how minutes will elapse before The Verve's "Bitter Sweet Symphony" is pressed into service). This year's theme for the BBC extravaganza? The digital age (as in "we're playing a full and active part in"). The venue? Errm, Sky. Some of the links, and we stress some. are being filmed at Sky's digital control centre," explains a BBC spokesproducer. "If we were making a film about canning, we'd make it in a canning factory."

IS THAT yet another story I see before me of marital infidelity involving old Viagra lips himself, Mick Jagger? And is that an upcoming Rolling Stones tour badly in need of some advance publicity? This time it's 29-yearold model Luciana Giminez Morad, who tells pais and The Sun: "I'm having Jagger's baby." If it's true, then it can only mean two things: one, there's still life in the old dog; two, she can bring the kid along to next June's show at Wembley.

ITV'S RELATIVELY poor track record in comedy has prompted the network to seek help from the US - the producers of The Cosbu Show and Roseanne are currently creating a sitcom set in the Seventies, presumably on the basis that that was when ITV last produced a decent sitcom. The transatlantic recruitment drive will not surprise anyone who saw Minding the Baby, but it mystifies Graham Linehan, co-creator of Father Ted and Big Train, who thinks that, what with The Royle Family, Goodness Gracious Me and Alan Partridge (all BBC shows), British comedy writing is going through something of a golden age at the moment. "Bringing in American producers may work but it's an act of desperation when no desperation is called for," says Linehan, "I cannot see it getting much better, unless the Day Today team reform, or Vic and Bob get their fairies out again."

"BIGGEST EVER poll rejects joining Euro", announces the Sunday Telegraph, which then goes on to tell readers that public support for British entry into the single currency is "in steep decline". Rather like the paper's definition of current affairs. The poll referred to in the piece was carried out before last year's election. In fact, according to a report by Social and Community Planning Research (the body that conducted the original poll) published today, it is opposition to the single currency that is falling. Next week in the Sunday Telegraph: "Massive backing for Britain to send task force to the

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RACE IN THE MEDIA

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d'In plain black and white

The picture on the right shows a typical Fleet Street scrum of snappers, hacks and camera crews. And barely a black face in sight. By Rhys Williams

DOES ANYONE know precisely how many journalists working in the national press are drawn from ethnic minorities? More to the point, does anyone in the national press actually care?

The answer to the first one is almost certainly "no". As for the second, well, judging by the complete lack of any systematic ethnic monitoring on any of our national titles (including this one), the current response runs something along the lines of "probably not", or at least "not enough".

Politicians ducking uncomfortable truths habitually head for the nearest statistic and hide. The newspaper industry seeking similar refuge will find precious little behind which to crouch. The National Union of Journalists estimates that around 1.8 per cent of its 28,000 members are from ethnic minorities, a figure based on a voluntary questionnaire enclosed with each membership

According to the most recent re-search available, carried out six months ago by Beulah Ainley, author of the book Black Journalists White Media, there are only 24 non-white staff journalists on the national oress: that's 24 out of approximately 3,000. The union believes the figure is slightly higher, but puts it above no more than a "few dozen".

"The situation is very fluid," explains Ms Ainley, who is also a for-mer member of the NUJ's Black Members Council. "People come and go all the time, which makes it difficult to be precise, and of course there may be more writing and contributing freelance like myself. But they won't be getting the benefits of full-time work; holidays, sick

pay, pensions." cent of the national population that blacks and Asians constitute





Baz Bamigboye of the Daily Mail and C4's Zeinab Badawi

Newspaper editors do not need surveys to tell them that ethnic minorities are under-represented: they can look out across the office every morning and see it in the faces of their staff.

"The press have for months been reporting the Stephen Lawrence inquiry and the under-representation of black people in the police force," Whichever figure you believe - says Ms Ainley. "They fail to report Telegraph's Mihir Bose, Baz or Asian faces may raise the issue, and they are all contestable - the that they employ even fewer black Barnigboye of the Daily Mail, The but it is not evidence of discrimina-

"No editor says 'we're not going to employ black people'. It's just that they don't take it very seriously. The biggest problem is that it's not seen as a problem at all."

Does it matter? "Yes, because the media is the visible face of society." says Chris Myant, of the Commission for Racial Equality (CRE). "It is a key way that people see role models and positive images. Positive images in the sense that if Trevor McDonald reads the news or the editor of a national newspaper is Asian, then it sends out the right messages about career possibilities. It also defies the stereotype that black people are either thick of lazy.

"I also think it helps the media better understand issues of race in society. One reason the print media has had such difficulties in relation to race issues is race equality is not a part of their everyday life."

The CRE confirms what most suspect or probably know to be the case: in terms of equal opportunities, broadcasting has moved into the digital age while print is still mucking around with typewriters and carrier pigeons. The NUJ believes there has been

some progress, but it is simply that broadcasting has taken off at such a lick that the press is positively static by comparison. It probably takes no more than 20 seconds to rattle off a list of high-profile names from the broadcast media - Trevor McDonald, Martin Bashir. Samir Shah, Zeinab Badawi. George Alagiah, Rajeev Omaar, Trevor Phillips, Andi Peters, Moira Stuart.

Even for the industry-literate, it takes a few more minutes to come up with Kamal Ahmed, media editor of The Guardian. The Daily tainly no black journalists I spoke to Observer sports columnist, and instance. It's just that the networks recruit, it's haphazard, therefore the adverts in the ethnic press, and for back today."

Ekow Eshun, editor of Arena magthrough which people are recruited old network links remain. Nobody azine. Broadcasting is, admittedly, tend to disfavour black and Asians. an easier industry for the commis-

Newspaper editors do not need surveys to tell them that very few of their staff are from the ethnic minorities

"We have to, I think, be very concerned about the lack of any formalised, open recruitment procedures for national newspapers. You almost never see a post on a national advertised, unless it's something specialist they are having more difficulty filling, like Guardian On-line.

"We're not saying that the issue stands or falls, or whether employers advertise posts, but it has significant impact on people's awareness and perceptions of the opportunities available. We argue that the only way forward is open. measurable, accountable procedure based on objective criteria."

In other words no more of this arcane, word of mouth nonsense which only perpetuates the present imperfections.

point," says Mr Bose, who writes there is any direct racism, and cer- Alibhai-Brown, Emma Lindsay, an been no industrial tribunal cases, for Daily Telegraph. "When newspapers

seems to be sitting down and saying 'shouldn't we be looking at other ways of finding people?' There's not

much creativity in the way people are found." The CRE favoured strategy is to appoint sector leaders, figures who will campaign for equal opportunities in their particular fields. For example, the efforts of Clive Jones, Carlton's chief executive, have helped secure the recruitment of a special producer who ensures that

> ernor of the Bank of England, has promised to publish the ethnic breakdown of his staff in the bank's annual report. The newspaper industry's sector leader is Robin Pauley, managing editor of the Financial Times. Mr Pauley says that part of the problem

not applying for the FT's graduate

the casting in programmes is suit-

ably multiracial. Eddie George, gov-

the last two years, an Asian has been one of the two to be recruited.

Like the CRE, the NUJ believes it is time to act. But while they both share a common purpose the two have yet to formulate a joint approach. The union wants first to establish the precise levels of black and Asian staffing on the national press; it has briefed chapels to count and report back and then confront the sector with its inadequacies.

But it recognises that change, though positive, will be gradual and probably starts with training. Through the George Viner Fund, the NUJ hands out six grants worth £1,000 each every year to black and Asian students who have secured places on journalism courses. The CRE at least senses a shift

in desire. "When we went to national newspapers six years ago," says Mr Myant, "we were looked on as "It's a cultural rather than racist is that many black and Asians are politically correct imbeciles.

The feeling now is that it needs total lags some way behind the 6 per people than the police. I don't think Independent's columnist Yasmin tion," says Mr Myant. "There have about sport and business for The trainee scheme in the first place. a new approach, and that we would The mix is improving, helped by be more successful if we were to go

'I'm quitting because of racism'

~wo weeks ago I participated in Countdown to the Millennium, an LWT programme about race relations. Max Hastings, editor of the Evening Standard, was there to grill people such as Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police chief, on their contributions to racial harmony.

Now, we all know Sir Paul Condon has made mistakes, but at least he is doing something about racism within the police force, encouraging blacks and Asians to apply for jobs.

Hastings declared, on the programme, that whenever any "remotely qualified" non-white hacks approached his paper, they were "always" given a break.

In common with other editors, Hastings should take a leaf out of Condon's book. He should make more of an effort if he really wants to improve his paper's ethnic recruitment record. It is immoral to discriminate, especially in the only paper representing a multiracial city such as London. Also, a more multiracial image, with a couple of black and Asian picture by-lines, might help circulation.

The Evening Standard is not



Editors of newspapers will never admit to a racist recruitment policy. So how is it so few journalists are black? By Donu Kogbara

couraged by working for "ignorant"

bosses on national newspapers that

alone in its approach to hiring nonwhite journalists. I have visited many newspaper offices and I know that black and Asian faces are depressingly rare. Black and Asian applicants are openly discriminated gainst on one tabloid. I have talked to a photographer told to exclude "darkies" from his pictures; I know of news desks that ask the colour of a rapist or a murder victim before deciding whether to run a story. Some papers are trying to modernise. But the idea of a British national newspaper following News-week by appointing a black editor is still risible, in spite of thousands of words printed on the evils of racism.

he eventually gave up and joined The Voice, the black paper: Now I am giving up too. I'm so sick of being ignored, pigeonholed and subtly insulted - and so hurt by receiving just occasional scraps from papers for whom I've I've done good work - that after 15 years I have begun to apply for jobs outside journalism. Yes, I'm aware that I'm not the most brilliant journalist on earth; I don't deserve a column, a staff job or vast amounts of freelance work just because I'm black. Yes, journalism is an overcrowded market; plenty of competent white hacks also have Diran Adebayo, an award-winning career difficulties. And no, I can't novelist, told me he was so disprove I've been a victim of bigotry.

But can it really be a coincidence that few non-white journalists get decent jobs or regular freelance slots? Why are my white journalist friends almost always more successful than black ones with similar qualifications? Am I imagining it when I say that I consistently get less respect and fewer opportunities?

sion to lobby; relatively few players

account for a hefty chunk of the busi-

ness. Broadcasting is also governed

by certain social responsibility

obligations: the BBC's charter and

the Broadcasting Act both contain

provisions that relate to equal

On the other hand, print is an un-

regulated mess. It is not so much a

function of intent, says the CRE, as

the way papers have evolved: more

an issue of an unsound structure

than a suspect attitude. There is no

formal ethnic monitoring (although

News International may well have

a system in place within a year) and,

almost without exception, no formal

recruitment schemes beyond

"The fact that there are few black

opportunities.

graduate entry

I used to write articles in which I said black Brits would do better if they spent less time moaning about racism and more time grafting. But today I'm embittered, and more radical. The trouble is, racism is often impossible to prove. Many white newspaper executives are utterly charming. They invite you to parties and say they are colour-blind. and concerned about ethnic minor-

ities. Some are sincere. But most are hypocrites and closet racists who abuse (or fail constructively to use) the power they have. Because they run a vital information outlet it is difficult to criticise them publicly. But surely it is time to examine racism in the newspaper business. These smooth-talking members of the chattering classes must prove that they are as liberal as they claim.

Our fight for equality

The BBC takes equal opportunities seriously, says **Bob Nelson**

The BBC is one of the more suc- workforce should "reflect the cessful media organisations at employing and retaining ethnic staff. At the Corporation we believe we are "nearly there". We strongly support equal opportunity practices for gender, religion and disemploys more ethnic minorities within its news operations proportionately than Channel 4 or the ITV companies. We have made great strides over recent years by increasing the proportion of black staff employed in senior positions. The BBC is also a champion of

the Leadership Challenge and is represented on the steering group for Race for Opportunity.

We believe that representing all sectors of the communities in the United Kingdom is at the core of public service broadcasting. This applies to the representation of ethnic minorities on air, the accuracy and balance of news coverage, as well as the composition of the Corporation's

staff. The BBC recognises that its

nations, regions and communities it serves". The BBC is carrying this belief forward for the new millennium. One Statement of Promises to Viewers and Listeners for 1998/99 is "to focus ability as well as race, and the BBC on our obligation to represent all groups in society accurately, and

to avoid reinforcing prejudice". In 1990, the BBC set its first target, aiming to have 8 per cent of its overall workforce from ethnic minorities by the year 2000. Projections for the 2001 Census state that approximately 7-8.5 per cent of the total UK population will be ethnic minorities. BBC Regions also set targets at the same time, seeking to reflect the specific characteristics of the

local communities they serve. There are also training schemes, policies and positive action initiatives. One initiative has been the Asian and Afro-Caribbean Reporters Trust. It was created by the BBC in 1989 with

the specific aim of increasing the

number of Afro-Caribbean and Asian journalists. Some of its first graduates are now reporting for the Six and the Nine O'Clock News. In 1996/97, the BBC spent £2.5m on diversity issues, including gender, age and

disability as well as race. The BBC is committed to developing its workforce irrespective of their ethnic origin. but operates a number of schemes for ethnic staff, in addition to the general training available. The BBC operates a mentoring system for ethnic staff, which has the specific aim of encouraging Afro-Caribbean members of staff to develop into more senior roles. As part of its ongoing development of staff, managers are offered training in racial awareness. The BBC will also look again at its targets when the 2001 Census is published.

The writer is the BBC's Head of Organisation and Management Development

It's good to Talk Radio with a real pro in charge

AT TEN minutes to eight yesterday morning just over 3 million people were listening to Britain's three national speechbased radio stations Give or take the odd air-waved surfer and last-minute defector to Classic FM, the number of listeners per station based on the latest ratings were as follows: 1.8 million listening to Radio 4, Lord Sainsbury on the Today programme talking about the need for British industry to be more science-based; 971,000 tuned into Radio 5's breakfast show interview with James Appleby, British Yo-Yo champion. The remaining 365,000 (correction, 365,001 with me)

were glued, ears flapping, to the astonishing revelation on Talk Radio that the real love of Diana, Princess of Wales's life was neither Dodi nor James -Charles didn't come into it - but a handsome Harley Street heart surgeon called Hazmit Khan.

The revelation might not have been quite so astonishing had I read the Sunday People the previous day, but hearing it straight from the horse's mouth made it more authentic. Did Neil Wallace, editor of the People, have photographic evidence to back up his story that the Princess, wearing a wig, used to meet her lover in a Kensington chip shop, presenter Clare

Catford wanted to know. No, said Mr Wallace, but make no mistake, Khan was the love of Dodi's life. Dodi? Sorry - Diana; he meant to say Diana. A good breakfast show is the

secret of a successful radio station, Kelvin MacKenzie, the new owner of Talk Radio, told me yesterday. It's three weeks since MacKenzie's consortium Talkco bought the station for £24.5m and regular listeners will tell you that things are looking up already, particularly the breakfast show. It's faster, punchier, funnier, a bit like The Sun in its hevday, when MacKenzie edited it. "Look, we're not aiming to compete with BBC breakfast shows. How can



SUE ARNOLD

we? We haven't got their billions from licence fee revenues. But what we can do is entertain." Surely he's doing that already. In the breakfast show peak

period yesterday, in the half hour cocaine-sniffing former Blue between 7.30am and 8am when Radio 4 was featuring Pinochet, European defence commitments, the RUC and Lord Sainsbury and Radio 5 offered social services, the millennium bug, stress in the workplace and Yo-Yos, Clare Catford and her co-presenter Bill Overton were begging listeners to call in with their thoughts on the following: 1. Prince Jackson (son of Michael) going to Stowe were any of them at school with famous people? 2. Funny vegetables – did anyone else have a potato shaped like Jimmy Hill? 3. Paedophiles - were the social services riddled with

them? 4. Richard Bacon, sacked

first, exclusive interview to Talk Radio - what did listeners think? And, of course, 5. Diana queen of heart surgeons and bewigged frequenter of chip shops - was she a victim?

MacKenzie said he was pleased with the response to the Bacon interview. Talk Radio was flooded with sympathetic callers berating the Beeb for sacking him. He was also pleased that I liked the breakfast show, but it wasn't quite right yet. If a successful station stands or falls by its breakfast show, a breakfast show does ditto by its presenter. Dan Imus in New York, he

thought, was a great breakfast show presenter. He talked to Peter presenter, about to give his everyone and, more important, everyone wanted to talk to him. If Clinton was in town he would call Imus on his show. Yes, of course it was important to have scoops, but things didn't work that way any more. The wheel has already been invented. It's

personalities that count. Talking of which, what does Anna Raeburn, Talk Radio's personality queen and last year's Sony Gold Award winner, think of her new boss? She hasn't been asked to do her show topless, by the way. "Thank God we've got a professional in charge at last," she said.

Should docusoaps tell the truth or simply entertain us? By Jane Robins

The lying game

tary makers might be forgiven for thinking that the docusoap must soon fall into decline. Practically every subject seems to have been covered. Shops, ships, vets. doctors, nurses - all have been heavily docusoaped already.

Yet Paul Hamann, the BBC's head of documentaries, recently revealed that he has managed to commission 12 new docusoaps, which will make up nearly half of the corporation's total new documentary output. Clearly, broadcasters' appetite for docusoaps remains as voracious as ever, and they are still generating high ratings.

with moving into the next stage of the genre's development. It seems that programmers have still not worked out what the journalistic rules are: they have not decided whether the docusoap must have the same respect for truth as is required of serious documentaries.

The question was discussed with animation and occasional animosity at a recent seminar on "truth in factual programmes", hosted by the BBC. but attracting luminaries from throughout the industry.

The participants fell into two camps, with the first arguing that the docusoap, unlike the serious documentary, is essentially entertainment, and can therefore be more relaxed about what it presents as "truth". Much of the debate focused on a single scene in the BBC's Driving School series. Programmemakers had asked its heroine. Maureen, to re-enact her habit of waking up at 4am to demand that her husband test her on the Highway Code.

The "entertainment" school argues that such re-enactment is fine. The logic behind the argument says the scene was typical of Maureen's real behaviour, and audiences are sophisticated enough to realise that a television camera crew would not have camped out in her bedroom night after night on the off-chance of her waking up early for one of her Highway Code sessions.



A scene from the BBC's popular docusoap Driving School raised serious ethical questions

This justification relies heavily on the assertion that audiences know that, to some degree, all of television is a trick. They recognise that vast amounts of raw material are edited into a "version of reality".

The second camp, the "purist" school, says that that once programme-makers start concecting or re-enacting a scene, they are in danger of misleading the audience. Viewers are entitled to believe that

what is seen on the screen is real. So how do audiences judge the "facts" presented in a docusoap? Dr Annette Hill, a media academic, is in the final stages of an research project commissioned by the British Film Institute. Five hundred people were asked to keep diaries over a five-year period, recording their views on reality programming which included the early precursors of the docusoap, such as 999 and Children's Hospital.

Although the research does not provide clear answers to the programme-makers' dilemma, it does reveal some relevant themes. Aud-

geneous group that responds to a ogramme in a given way. So, with the Maureen-in-bed scene, it seems likely that while some viewers were aware of the camera crew, others did not think about it.

Although the research suggests that audiences are sophisticated in recognising the amount of editing that is involved in a programme, it also reveals that most viewers put a high level of trust in the programme-maker. They trust the BBC not to offend. And it is therefore quite possible that they would also trust the BBC not to play fast and loose with the truth.

Steve Hewlett, the new director of programmes at Carlton, and original commissioner of Children's Hospital, says that even if audiences recognise what is going on, concocted scenes are damaging to the whole of factual programming.

Audience questioning of the reality of scenes in docusoaps would inevitably spread into their attitude towards more serious document-

iences, it seems, are not a homo- aries, he argues. The contract between producer and audience that factual programmes are factual would gradually be broken down.

Also, an industry acceptance of contrived scenes in docusoaps would, over time, put serious documentary makers at a disadvantage. They would be put under pressure to produce more exciting scenes more readily, but it takes a much greater investment of time, research and money to produce the authentic "magic moment" than it does to invent one.

The BBC is in the process of updating its guidelines on such issues and currently seems inclined to take the Hewlett view, that tampering with the truth in anything but the margins of television is not acceptable. The Director General, Sir John Birt, appears to be firmly in the "purist" school of factual programming. But the BBC is only one part of the broadcasting market; producers expect that the real test may come at ITV, where the pressure to improve ratings is unrelenting.

Bad BBC news from north of the border

LAST WEEK, the Scottish Daily Record turned its front page into a wild-west "Wanted poster. It demanded the heads of the "BBC hitmen" guilty of the cold-blooded murder of Scotland's news programme". Underneath were mug-shots of Will Wyatt, head of broadcasting and Tony Hall, director of news and current affairs. When the corporation's recent strategy review called for BBC news to be more "accessible" to popular opinion, I don't think this is quite what they had in mind.

It was the most lurid episode so far in the extraordinary controversy raging in Scotland over the Six O'Clock News. In rejecting a Scottish-generated bulletin, the BBC has succeeded in uniting against itself the entire Scottish press. Scottish opposition parties, the Broadcasting Council for Scotland, its own employees and just about every other voice of Scottish opinion.

The most recent poll suggests 61 per cent of Scots support the Scottish six, with 23 per cent opposed. The tabloid shooting war began 10 days ago when the BBC board of governors blocked plans to replace the existing Londonbased six o'clock news with one presented and edited in Scotland. BBC Scotland had mooted the idea of a "Scottish Six" as a response to the changed political situation in a devolved Scotland.

But BBC governors said this risked "running ahead" of constitutional events, and that they were "minded" to oppose it. The BBC's Scottish "watchdog", the Broadcasting Council for Scotland, was furious. Professor Lindsav Paterson, a prominent member the BCS, resigned, declaring that the corporation was treating Scotland with contempt. There were claims that the BBC had been "bounced" by lobbying from Cabinet Ministers who feared a "platform for nationalism".



MACWHIRTER

In fact, the platform for nationalism has been constructed by the BBC itself. It has handed the SNP its best propaganda gift since Sean Connery was denied a knighthood last year. The nationalists have renewed their attack on the "English Broadcasting Corporation" this time even anti-nationalist papers like the Record are agreeing with horrible suspicions of "metropolitan interference".

Yet this a not, essentially, a political issue at all, but a matter of practical journalism and editorial coherence. In six months time, a Scottish parliament will be sitting in Edinburgh with legislative responsibility for a whole range of domestic policy: education, health, local government, sport, crime, the arts etc. This will present the London-based news editors with an insoluble dilemma: do they ignore the new constitutional reality and continue to transmit English stories about these subjects to Scotland, where they no longer apply; or do they try to integrate into the UK bulletins

Scottish stories which are not relevant south of the border. The BBC seems to believe that it is possible to present Scottish-only stories in the existing UK national news. But I fear this is naive. Take a current example: in Scotland there is a row between Scottish Office ministers and the

implementation of "Higher Still*, a new examination system. Is it really worth trying to explain this complex issue to millions of bemused English viewers who will not be affected? Similarly, Scottish viewers may not be hugely interested in the controversy over the future of grammar schools, abolished in Scotland 30 years ago.

In March 1998, out of 280 news stories broadcast on UK bulletins, only three were Scottish. - yet there are two Scottish party conferences in that month

The sensible solution would be to "devolve" one major news bulletin to Scotland so that Scottish stories can be assigned their due weight. The "Scottish Six" would still have access to the BBC's correspondents. It would merely give Scottish stories the prominence they deserve in Scotland.

The Corporation is only fuelling paranoia about London control freaks trying to starve the parliament of the oxygen of publicity. But it's not too late for the BBC to avoid a collision. Instead of making its decision irrevocable on 10 December, the BBC could launch a proper public consultation. There is a compelling case for a formal inquiry into how broadcasting should adapt to the new constitutional arrangements in

Diversity is nothing to be afraid of, it is the spirit of the age. The United Kingdom is now a multi-national state and needs a broadcasting service to match. Let nation speak peace unto nation - at least at six

Iain Macwhirter is one of eleven BBC Scotland presenters who signed an open letter calling for the BBC board of governors to reconsider their opposition to a Scottish edited and presented six o'clock television news bulletin

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NEW FILMS

F ONLY (15) nirector: Maria Ripoll **Starring:** Douglas Henshall

hijk Tipelve Monkeys with Four Weddings and a Puneral, and you get Maria Ripoli's mainly dreadful Anglo-Spanish comedy. Henshall stars as a dumped boyfriend transported back in time by some mysterious Spanish dustmen. As dopey as it sounds, but a lot less fun. West End: ABC Piccadilly, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Virgin Fulham Road

THE NEGOTIATOR (15) Director: F Gary Gray

Starring: Samuel L Jackson, Kevin Spacey, JT Walsh

Two of modern cinema's current favourites go head to head in Gray's thrilling drama about a negotiator forced to kick up a hostage situation of his own. Originally written for Sylvester Stallone, the script has a predilection for lunk-headed swearing that sounds uneasy in the mouths of such articulate, rhetorical performers, but it doesn't disrupt the wonderfully louche chemistry between them. West End: ABC Baker Street, ABC Tottenham Court Road, Hammersmith Virgin, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Marble Arch, Screen on the Green, UCI Whiteleus. Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

OUT OF SIGHT (15) Director: Stephen Soderbergh Starring: George Clooney

Elmore Leonard is the source for Stephen Soderbergh's irresistible slice of pulp fiction involving eccentric low-lifes, comic cops, intrigues and heists. George Clooney plays the jail-breaking hero, Jack Foley, as a down-and-dirty version of Cary Grant, and turns in the best performance of his career so far. Suddenly, he seems to be a grown-up film star at a time when most of Hollywood's male heartthrobs don't look old enough to get served in a pub. West End: Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Elephant & Castle Coronet. Empire Leicester Square, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero

THE PHILADELPHIA STORY (U) Director: George Cukor

tarring: Katharine Hepburn, Cary Grant, James Stewart

Sublime cinema. Cukor's movie - in which Hepburn's imminent wedding is disrupted by the appearance of her former fiance (Grant) and a Shaftesbury Avenue, Claphom Picture House scandal-sheet reporter (Stewart) - has a strange, melancholy heart. You never doubt that it'll be the

one who loves her most who'll lead her to the altar, but between the rounds of screwball bickering. Hepburn's unsatisfied heiress sheds real tears. West End: Curzon Soho

SLUMS OF BEVERLY HILLS (15) Director: Tamara Jenkins

Starring: Alan Arkin

Tamara Jenkins's fictionalised account of her own teenage years in the outskirts of Beverly Hills has many moments that - after The Ice Storm and Boogie Nights - seem rather overdone. But Jenkins has a sure instinct for crippling social embarrassment, an impeccable sense of comic timing, and a superb central performer in Alan Arkin - a relic of the decade currently enjoying a well-deserved renaissance. West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue. Clapham Picture House. Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Virgin Fulham Road

T-REX: BACK TO THE CRETACEOUS **(3-D)** (U)

Director: Brett Leonard Starring: Peter Horton

I-Max 3-D dinosaurs are the kind of cute sensation for which cinema was invented, and Leonard's simply-scripted effects showcase lets the reptiles roar in your face, swoop over your head, and pursue you through the trees. But while you see every scale of the tyrannosaurus in living colour, you also get a pin-sharp view of Liz Stauber's zits. West End: Peosi IMAX Cinema

VICTORY (15)

Director: Mark Peploe Starring: Willem Dafoe, Irene Jacob, Sam Neilt This Euro-funded Conrad adaptation takes us to a sleazy hotel in the South Seas where well-known character actors (Simon Callow, Bill Paterson, etc.) favour extravagant facial hair, and the mid-price stars (Jacob, Neill, Dafoe) do some safe, literary acting. Archers fans should take a look, as one of the hairier patrons is played by Edward Kelsey. better known as the voice of Joe Grundy, West End: ABC Panton Street. Clapham Picture House

THE WISDOM OF CROCODILES (15) **Director:** Po Chih Leong

Starring: Jude Law, Elina Lowensohn, Timothy Spall

Jude Law stars as a contemporary vampire in a designer anorak, who has the decency to wine and dine his victims before he goes for their jugular. A well-intentioned attempt to give the genre an adult twist is undone by a script that can't tell the difference between sophistication and pretentious rambling. West End: ABC Ponton Street. ABC

Matthew Sweet

GENERAL RELEASE

ANGEL SHARKS

(MARIE BAIE DES ANGES) (15)

Manuel Pradal's handsome debut feature has reductive surface qualities, and its disjointed Scenes of adolescent decadence are engaging. But LES MISERABLES (12) it's empty, pretentious stuff, a sunny triumph of Bille August turns Victor Hugo's enormous novel

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COA

Nerd icon Woody Allen provides the voice of Odeon West End, UCI Whiteleys worker-ant "Z", who breaks out of his totalitarian rut when he falls in with Princess Bala (Sharon Stone). West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Plaza, jetzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea. Virgin Trocadero

A techno soundtrack bumps and grinds behind this monotonous arcade-game thriller about a New York vampire-killer tackling a power-crazed new bloodsucker. Noise and martial-arts action mask its tinny pedigree. West End: Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odean Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

DEAD MAN'S CURVE (15) All the students at this nameless American

llege are trying to butcher each other, led into temptation by an obscure regulation which awards straight-A grades to room-mates of suicides. Though not as deliciously nasty as the Scream films, Dead Man's Curve delivers a fine quota of drive-in shocks. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Virgin Trocadero

ELIZABETH (15)

Shekhar Kapur's film is the tale of a female figurehead struggling to gain purchase in a male world. But Kapur neglects the opportunities for fun in a story of independence triumphing over cruelty. West End: Odeon Haymarket, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Virgin Fulham Road

FEAR AND LOATHING IN LAS VEGAS (18) Cierry Gilliam's adaptation. starring Johnny Depp as Hunter S Thompson, tilts at Ralph Steadman cartoonery for its tale of a drug-fuelled journalistic assignment. Incident. caricature and lurid 1970s fashions are substituted for plot and character, and the film soon descends into narcotic lunacy. West End: ABC Baker Street, Empire Leicester Square. Richmond Filmhouse, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Haymarket

THE FOUNTAINHEAD (PG)

Vidor's melodrama stars Gary Cooper as an architect who takes on an evil corporate boss. Its expressionistic camerawork and cod-Freudian symbolism present a bizarre moral message: that we should celebrate the young entrepreneurs as a Nietzscheau superman. West End: Curzon Soho

HENRY FOOL (18)

Hal Hartley's fable traces the fate of a piece of erotic verse which springs from the head of a garbage man. The story's subtle twists and turns conjure Hartley's latest into a tour de force. West ard: Curzon Scho, Renoir, Ritzy Cinema

LEFT LUGGAGE (PG)

Krabbe's first stab as a director results in an uncertain soap opera focused on a Hasidic family in 1970s Holland. Fitful as drama, the film comes to

life as a showcase for its high-profile performers plus rising star Laura Fraser. West End: ABC

Swiss Centre, Curzon Mayfair, Screen on the Hill

form over content. West End: ABC Swiss Centre into an enormous film and it's as traditional as literary adaptations come these days - earnest, deferential and almost humourless. West End:

In Disney's animated feature, a girl disguises berself as a soldier to spare her ailing father from the certain death of combat. This has it all: a proactive heroine; a strong father/daughter relationship; honour, nobility; and, of course, crossdressing. West End Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon. Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Rio Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

MY NAME IS JOE (15)

Ken Loach's solid social-realist drama tells the tale of Joe (Peter Mullan), a recovering alcoholic torn between his old life (drugs, crime) and his new (romance with a middle-class health visitor). My Name is Joe brilliantly evokes a Britain caught below the poverty line. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Chelsea Cinema, Gate Notting Hill, Phoenix Cinema, Rio Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Haymarket

There's an air of knackered resignation to John Frankenheimer's latest movie about a gang of mercenaries in pursuit of a suitcase. As the leader of the gang, Robert De Niro does his blank-faced, gristle-chewing act. As dull as ditchwater. West End:Barbican Screen, Elephant & Castle Coronet, Hammersmith Virgin, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road

ROUNDERS (15)

The main problem with John Dahl's poker-club thriller is the weak hand dealt by its golden-boy star, Matt Damon, who is comprehensively outacted by almost everyone else. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Ritzy Cinema, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (15)

In Spielberg's Second World War drama, Captain John Miller (Tom Hanks) is dispatched with his squad on a compassionate mission to find a young private behind enemy lines and return him home to safety. The harsh, devastating battle sequences will be branded on your memory. West End: Plaza

THE TRUMAN SHOW (PG)

Peter Weir's new comedy, about a man (played by Jim Carrey) who discovers that his whole existence has been televised, is very funny due more to the script than its star's presence. West End: Gate Notting Hill, Plaza, Virgin Trocadero

VELVET GOLDMINE (18) Brian Slade (Jonathan Rhys Myers) is a Bowie-

esque idol; his friend and mentor, Curt Wild (Ewan McGregor), is a self-destructive US rocker. Their story is unravelled by a journalist (Christian Bale) 10 years after the hoax assassination of Slade. Director Todd Haynes has created a masterpiece. West End:Warner Village West End

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

insomnia (15) Remarkable debut by Erik Skjoldbjaerg begins with a policeman (Stellan Skarsgard) investigating a sex killing in Norway, but becomes a haunting study in guilt, duplicity and sleeplessness.

Out of Sight (15) Director Steven Soder-

bergh's tale of love on opposite sides of the law knocks spots off every previous Elmore Leonard adaptation, and boasts in George Clooney and Jennifer Lopez (above) the swooniest romantic pairing of the cinema year.

Antz (PG)

Computer-animated comedy voiced by a stellar cast stars Woody Allen as a worker ant who becomes an unlikely opponent of the colony's totalitarian regime. Good fun, and Allen's best work in a while.

My Name is Joe (15)

All that one would expect from a Ken Loach film - humour, indignation, emotional sympathy driven by Peter Mullan's scary, intense performance as a recovering alcoholic.

The Philadelphia Story (U; Curzon Soho, NFT)

As civilised and graceful as any romantic comedy ever made, it also brought together the most loveable of Hollywood trios - Katharine Hepburn, Cary Grant and James Stewart.

ANTBONY OUINN

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

The Invention of Love Theatre Royal, Haymarket

Tom Stoppard's witty, heartbreaking fantasia on the twin passions of AE Housman: scholarship and an unavailable beterosexual friend.

Little Malcolm and His Struggle **Against the Eunuchs** Hampstead Theatre

Denis Lawson's superbly amusing cast are in no way eclipsed by screen-heartthrob Ewan McGregor, who brings complexity to the central role.

Kafka's Dick Piccadilly Theatre Spiriting Kafka to suburban England, Alan Bennett's hilarious romp survives some peculiar casting in Peter Hall's revival.

The Seaguli West Yorkshire Playhouse Jude Kelly's new company, headed by Ian McKellen (right) and Claire Higgins, kicks off with this Chekhov classic in a

tempting season that

includes The Tempest.

much within as without.

Twelfth Night Crucible Theatre, Sheffield Perfectly thought-through production by Michael Grandage evokes an Illyria where storms rage as

PAUL TAYLOR

THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Louise Bourgeois Serpentine

To 10 Jan

Gallery Autobiographical installations from the surrealist sculptress feature a giant mother/ spider presiding over images of spinning and weaving, restoration and decay (right).



Turner Prize Tate Gallery

Hugely popular competitive bash in which four artists show their wares. Chris Ofili, Tacita Dean, Cathy de Monchaux and Sam Taylor-Wood are this year vying for the top spot. To 10 Jan

Bridget Riley Abbott Hall, Kendal A retrospective on Riley's career from her early

Sixties Op Art, moving from rippling monochromes to colour, stripes and diagonals. To 31 Jan

Edward Burne-Jones Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery The people's Pre-Raphaelite centenary exhibition gathers together many favourites such as King

Cophetua and the Beggar Maid. To 17 Jan Helen Chadwick Ferens Gallery, Hull The first overview since this influential UK artist's death mid-career in 1996. Lush light-boxes of fruit, flowers and fluids, and the last series, Unnatural

Selection, showcasing IVF embryos. To 17 Jan

TOM LUBBOCK

CINEMA WEST END

ABC BAKER STREET (0870-902 0418) ⊕ Baker Street Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas 2.25pm. 5.25pm. 8.15pm The Negotiator 2.10pm. 5.15pm, 8.05pm

ABC PANTON STREET (0870-902 0404) © Piccadllly Circus The Last Days of Disco 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.25pm A Perfect Murder 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Victory 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8,30pm

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-287 4322 (from 1pm) Piccadilly Circus Harnam: The Turkish Bath 1.25pm, 3.50pm. 6.10pm, 8.35pm If Only 1.20pm, .45pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pi

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0870-902 0402) & Leicester Square Slums of Beverly Hills The Wisdom of Crocodiles 1.05pm, 3.25pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm

ABC SWISS CENTRE (0870-902 0403) ♦ Leicester Square Angel Sharks 1.30pm, 3.25pm, 5.20pm, 7.15pm, 9.10pm The Governess 1.45pm. 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm Left Luggage 1.30pm, 6.45pm Rien Ne Va Plus 4.30pm, 8.55pm La Vie Revée des Anges 1.25pm 3.45pm, 6.05pm, 8.25pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD

5.25pm, 7.40pm, 9.45pm My Name is Joe 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm The Negodator 2.20pm, 6.05pm, 9.05pm

BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-638 8891) ⊕ Barbican Out of Sight 3pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Ronin 8.40pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) & Sloane Square My Name is Joe 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-498 3323) & Clapham Common Fire 4.45pm, 9.15pm Out of Sight 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Slums of Beverly Hills 3.45pm, 8.45pm Victory 1.30pm, 6.45pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 1.45pm, 7pm

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) ← Green Park Left Luggage 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm **CURZON SOHO**

CORZON SONO
(0171-734 2255 (12pm-6pm)

O Leicester Square The Eef
1.30pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm,
9.15pm Fire 1pm, 6.30pm The
Fountainhead 2.45pm, 7.15pm
Henry Fool 3.20pm, 9pm The
Philadelphia Story 12.30pm Philadelphia Story 12.30pm, 5pm, 9.30pm

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE Zastle Antz 4pm, 6pm Blade 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Out of Sight 3.20pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm Ronin 8.25pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (0990-888990) + Leicester Square Pear and Loathing in Las Vegas 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Out of Sight 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm Sidding Doors 1pm, 3.20pm, 5.40pm, 8pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) & Notting Hill Gate My Name is Joe 4.25pm, 9pm The Truman Show 2.10pm,

HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0870-907 0718) & Ravenscourt Park/Hammersmith Antz 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.40pm Blade 8.40pm Mulan 1.30pm, 3.50pm The Negotiator 1.30pm, 4.30pm, 8.30pm Out of Sight 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm Ronin 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm,

(0171-930 3647) ↔ Charing Cross Das Schloss 4.45pm, 7pm, METRO (0171-734 1506) ⊕ Piccadilly Circus Buffalo 66 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Insomma 2pm, 6pm. 8.30pm Insomnia 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

ICA CINEMA

CURZON MINEMA (0171-369 1723) & Hyde Park Corner/Knightsbridge La Vie Revée des Anges 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm

NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) ♦ Notting Hill Gate The Negotiator 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm **ODEON CAMPEN TOWN**

(08705-050007) & Camden Town (08705-050007) & Camden lown Antz 11.40am, 1.40pm, 3.40pm Blade 5.45pm, 8.30pm The Negotiator 1.45pm, 5.05pm, 8.05pm Out of Sight 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.55pm, 8.40pm Ronin 12.15pm, 3.05pm, 6pm, 8.45pm Rounders 3.15pm, 8.35pm Snake Eyes 12.55pm, 6.10pm

ODEON HAYMARKET (08705-050007) ← Piccadilly Circus Elizabeth 2.15pm, 5pm,

ODEON KENSINGTON
(08705-050007) → High Street
Kensington Aritz 12noon,
2.10pm, 4.20pm Blade 6.30pm,
9.25pm Elizabeth 12.35pm,
6.20pm If Only 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Out of Sight 12.20pm, 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 12.20pm, 5.20pm, 5.20pm, 9.20pm, 8.25pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm Rounders 3.25pm, 9.10pm Snake Eyes 2pm, 4.35pm, 7.10pm, 9.45pm ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE

5.45pm, 8.20pm **ODEON MARBLE ARCH** OPEON MARBLE ARCH (08705-050007) ⊕ Marble Arch Antz 12.15pm. 2.15pm. 4.15pm Blade 12.35pm. 3.25pm. 6.20pm. 9.10pm The Negotiator 11.45am. 2.50pm. 5.55pm. 9pm Out of Sight 12.25pm. 3.20pm. 6.10pm. 9.05pm Ronin 12.20pm. 3.15pm 6.05pm 8.55pm. 3.15pm, 6.05pm, Rounders 6.20pm,

Snake Eyes 6.20pm **ODEON MEZZANINE** (08705-050007) ↔ Square Elizabeth Leicester 12.35pm. 3,05pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm If Only 1,05pm, 3.30pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.25pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 6.30pm, There's Something About Mary 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm The Wedding Singer 2.20pm, 4.25pm, 6.35pm,

ODEON SWISS COTTAGE 8.15pm if Only 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Out of Sight 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm Ronin 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm Rounders 12.10pm,

ODEON WEST END (08705-050007) & Leicester Square Les Misérables 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Snake Eyes 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA (0171-494 4153) O Piccadilly Circus Across the Sea of Time New York Adventure (3-D) 12.45pm, 5.05pm Everest 3pm, 7.25pm, 9.30pm T-Rex: Back to the Cretaceous (3-D) 11.40am, 1.55pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.25pm,

PHOENIX CINEMA (0181-444 6789) @ East Finchley Name is Joe 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm PLAZA

Circus Antz 2pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm For Richer or Poorer 1.15pm, 4pm Primary Colors 8.15pm Saving Private Ryan 3.15pm, 7.15pm The Truman Show 1pm, 3.30pm. 6pm. 8.30pm (0171-837 8402) → Russell

Square Henry Fool 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.15pm The Knowledge of Healing 1.05pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm. 9pm RIO CINEMA (0171-254 6677) BR: Dalston Kingsland Ever After 4.15pm My

Name is Joe 6.30pm, 8.50pm

(0171-733 2229) BR/⊕ Brixton Antz 2.15pm, 4.10pm Blade 1.15pm, 3.50pm, 9pm Hamam: The Turkish Bath 1.50pm Henry My Name is Joe 3.45pm (+ Short: The Man Who held His Breath) Out of Sight 1.10pm, 3.55pm, 9.15pm, (+ Short: Vacuum) Rounders 9.05pm Slums of Beverly Hills 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm, 9.30pm

2.40pm, 4.50pm, 6.55pm. 9pm SCREEN ON THE GREEN (0171-226 3520) → Angel The Negotiator 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm

SCREEN ON THE HILL (0171-435 3366) ↔ Belsize Park Left Luggage 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm, 9.05pm

UCI WHITELEYS (0990-888990) © Oueensway Antz 2.50pm, 5.05pm, 7.05pm Blade 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm Mulan 3pm The Negotlator 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm Out of Sight 3.50pm, 6.35pm, 9.20pm Primary Colors 9.05pm Ronin 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm Small Soldiers 1.10pm Snake Eyes 5.15pm, 7.20pm, 9.45pm

(0870-9070710) Square Antz 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm Mulan 1pm, 3.30pm Out of Sight 12.30pm, 3pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm Rounders 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 9pm There's Something About Mary 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD

VIRGIN CHELSEA

(0870-907 0711) & South Kensington Elizabeth 2pm, Kensington Efizabeth 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm If Only 1.40pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.15pm The Negotiator 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm A Perfect Murder 2.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Ronin 1pm, 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm Slums of Beverly Hills 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm

VIRGIN HAYMARKET VIRGIN HAYMARKET
(0870-907 0712) Piccadilly
Circus Fear and Loathing in Las
Vegas 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 6pm,
8.35pm My Name is Joe
12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm,
8.45pm Rounders 12.30pm,
3.10pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm

VIRGIN TROCADERO (0870-907 0716) ♥ Piccadilly Circus Antz 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm Blade 12.10pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Dead Man's Curve 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 5pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 9pm The Negotiator 2pm, 5.40pm, 8.45pm Out of Sight 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm There's Something About Mary 12.50pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm The Truman Show 12noon, 2.20pm, 6.25pm, 6.20pm

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) ↔ Lekcester Square Blade 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm The Exercist (25th Anniversary Rerelea 11.55am, 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Hope Floats 1,30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm Lethal Weapon 4 11.50pm, 2.50pm, 5.40pm. 8.10pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.20pm, 3.50pm. 6.20pm, 8.40pm The Negotiator 12noon, 2pm, 3pm, 5.10pm, 6pm, 8.20pm, 9pm A Perfect Murder 12.10pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Rounders 12.20pm, 8.30pm 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm Velvet

> **CINEMA** LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VIL-LAGE(0181-896 0066) & Park Royal Antz 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.20pm. 6.20pm, 8.30pm Blade 12.50pm, 3.50pm, 6.50pm, 9.50pm The Ex-orcist (25th Anniversary Rere-lease) 9.10pm Mulan 1pm, 4pm. 7pm The Negotiator 11.50am, 2.50pm, 5.50pm, 9pm Out of Sight 12.25pm, 3.25pm, 6.25pm. 9.30pm A Perfect Murder 6.30pm Ronin 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.40pm, 9.40pm Rounders 4.10pm, 9.20pm Small Soldiers 1.20pm, 4pm Snake Fuec 7.20pm, 10pm There's Something About Mary 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm The Truman Show 1.40pm, 7pm

BARKING ODEON (08705 050007) + Barking Antz 12.20pm. 2.15pm. 4.15pm, 6.15pm Blade 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.30pm, 8pm

If Only 12.15pm, 3.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hal 12noon, 3.40pm, 7.20pm Out of Sight 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Ronin 8pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 12.30pm, 3pp, 5.30pm, 8pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET BARNET

ODEON (08705 050007) → High Barnet Antz 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm

Blade 2.25pm, 5.10pm, 8pm If
Only 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm
Out of Sight 1.40pm, 5.05pm,
8.15pm Ronin 2.10pm, 5.15pm,
8.05pm Snake Eyes 8.50pm (0171-935 2772) & Baker Street Out of Sight 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Slums of Beverly Hills

BEXLEYHEATH BEXLEYHEATH
CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR:
Bexleyheath Antz 12noon, 2pm,
4pm, 6pm, 8pm Blade 2pm,
4.40pm, 7.15pm, 9.45pm Elizabeth
2pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 7.10pm, 9.40pm Hope Floats 2.05pm, 4.35pm Lock, Stock & Two 2.05pm, 4.35pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 9.50pm The Negotiator 12.05pm, 3pm, 6.30pm, 9.25pm Out of Sight 1pm, 4pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Ronin 1.20pm, 4.15pm, 7pm, 9.35pm, 5mall Soldiers 12.10pm, 2.35pm, 5pm Snake Eyes 10pm There's Something About Mary 7.25pm, 9.40pm The Truman Show 12noon, 2.25pm, 7.30pm The Wis-

2.25pm, 5.20pm, 7.30pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 9.25pm BROMLEY ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Bromley North/Bromley South Antz 1.05pm, 2.55pm, 4.45pm, 6.30pm 1.05pm, 2.55pm, 4.45pm, 6.30pm Blade 3pm, 5.55pm, 8.40pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rere-lease) 8.25pm Out of Sight 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm Ronin 2.55pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm

CATFORD ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Catford Antz 2pm, 4pm, 6pm Blade 8.15pm The Exordst (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 8.20pm Small Soldlers 12.10pm

CROYDON CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: Croydon West/East My Name Is Joe 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm + The Man Who Held His Breath SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West

Croydon. Antz 5pm Blade 6.30pm Out of Sight 6pm, 8.30pm Ronin 6.15pm, 8.30pm The Soldier (Asian Film) Tue 8.45pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon Antz 12.40pm. 2.50pm. 5.05pm. 7.15pm, 9.10pm Blade 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm. 9.30pm Elizabeth 2pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 9.20pm Mulan 4.45pm The Negotlator 11.40am, 2.40pm, 5.50pm, 9pm Out of Sight 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm Ronin 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.50pm Ronin 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.50pm Rounders 7pm Small Soldiers 1.45pm, 4.10pm Snake Eyes 9.50pm There's Something About Mary 12.50pm, 3.25pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm The Truman Show 6.40pm

DAGENHAM WARNER VILLAGE (0181-592 2020) & Dagenham Heathway Antz 2.30pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm Blade 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Blade 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 9.20pm Mulan 1.30pm, 3.20pm, 5.20pm The Negotiator 3pm, 6pm, 9pm Out of Sight 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm, 8.50pm Rounders 7.15pm Small Soldiers 2.15pm, 4.40pm Snake Eyes 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm There's Something About Mary 2.10pm, 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm The Truman Show 7.10pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 9.55pm

EALING VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-9070719) BR/O Ealing Broadway Blade 8.15pm Elizabeth 2.30pm, 5.30pm Out of Sight 2pm, 5pm, 8pm A Perfect Murder Tue 3pm,

BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) & Edgware Bade Miyan Chote Miyan phone for times Fire phone for times Kuch Kuch Hota Hai phone for times Method phone for times Pardeshi Babu phone for times Rounders 2,15pm, 5,15pm, 8.15pm

FDMONTON

LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) ⊕ Tottenham Hale Antz 2.30pm, 3.15pm, 4.55pm, 5.25pm, 7.50pm Blade 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm The Ex-ordst (25th Anniversary Rendease) 3.45pm, 6.35pm, 9.25pm Hope Floats 7.15pm If Only 3.30pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 8.10p The Negodator 1.55pm, 5.15pm, 8.50pm Out of Sight 2.55pm, 6pm, 9.05pm The Player's Club 10.05pm Ronin 3.40pm, 6.25pm, 9.15pm Saving Private Ryan 8pm Slums of Beverly Hills 3.55pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Small Soldiers 2.05pm,

3.05pm. 4.40pm, 5.35pm There's

Something About Mary 9.55pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm

FELTHAM **CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (0181-**867 0555) BR: Feltham Antz 11am, 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Blade 1.45pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.45pm Doli Sajake Rakhna 11.45am. 2.45pm, 6pm, 9.15pm Elizabeth 11am, 1.30pm, 4.10pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 6.50pm. 9.10pm If Only 11am, 1pm, 3.30pm. 5.45pm, 8pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 1pm, 4.30pm, 8pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Bar-rels 9.45pm Mehndi 11.45am, 6.20pm The Negotiator 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm Out of Sight 11.30am, 2pm, 4.35pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Pardeshi Babu 2.50pmm, 9.55pm Romin 11.25am, 1.55pm, 4.25pm, 7.05pm, 9.35pm Small Soldiers 3.55pm The Soldier (Asian Film) 12noon, 3.20pm. (Asian Film) 12noon, 3.20pm, 6.45pm, 9.50pm There's Some-thing About Mary 11am, 1.30pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm The Truman Show 11.50am, 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.05pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 10pm

FINCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) → East Finchley Antz 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.50pm Blade 12.35pm, 4.10pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Elizabeth 5.50pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 8.40pm Hope Floats 1pm, 3.40pm, 7pm Mulan 1.20pm, 1pm, 3.40pm, 7pm Mulan 1.20pm, 3.30pm The Negotiator 11.55am, 2.50pm, 6pm, 9pm out of 5ight 12.25pm, 3.10pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm Ronin 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Rounders 8.50pm Small Sol-diers 12.50pm, 4pm There's Some-thing About Mary 9.30pm The Truman Show 6.30pm

FINCHLEY ROAD WARNER VILLAGE (0171-604 3110) & Finchley Road Antz 12noon, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8pm, 10.25pm Blade 1.15pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.55pm Elizabeth 1.45pm, 4.30pm Hope Floats 1pm, 6.15pm lf Only 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.45pm, 9.20pm Les Misérables 3.30pm, 9.20m The Negotiator 12.10pm, 3.05pm, 6.20pm, 9.30pm Out of Sight 12.25pm, 3.20pm, 6.05pm, 9.15pm Ronin 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm Rounders 7.30pm, 10.05pm

GOLDERS GREEN
ABC (0181-455 1724) & Golders Green Elizabeth 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm

GREENWICH CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich The Negotiator 3.25pm 6.20pm, 9.15pm Out of Sight 3.40pm, 6.20pm. 9pm Rounders 4.25pm. 6.55pm. 9.25pm

ABC (0870-9020413) → Belsize

Park Antz 1.40pm, 3.40pm Out of Sight 2.20pm, 5.10pm, 8.10pm Ronin 5.30pm, 8.20pm Siums of Beverly Hills 1.25pm, 3.40pm, 5.55pm, 8.40pm HARROW SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303) O Harrow on the Hill Bade Miyan

Chote Mivan Tue 1.30pm Doli Saiake Rakhna 1,30om, 5om Fire 8.45pm The Soldier (Asian Film) WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) O Harrow on the Hill Antz 1 pm. 3 pm. 5.05pm, 7.10pm, 9pm Blade 1.05pm, 3.45pm, 6.25pm, 9.10pm Elizabeth 6.30pm The Exorcist (25th An-

niversary Rerelease) 9.20pm Les Miserables 12.10pm, 5.50pm Mulan 12.05pm, 2.10pm, 4.15pm The Negotiator 11.30am, 2.30pm, 5.40pm, 8.50pm Out of Sight 1.25pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.30pm Ronin 1.20рм. 4рм. 6.50рм, 9.40рм Rounders 3pm, 8.40pm Small Soldiers 12.35pm, 3.05pm Snake Eyes 5.30pm, 7.50pm, 10.10pm There's Something About Mary 4,30pm, 9.50pm The Truman Show 1.50pm,

HOLLOWAY ODEON (08705 050007) Arch-

way Antz 1pm, 3.05pm, 5pm, 7.10pm Blade 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.55pm, 8.30pm Dead Man's Curve 9.15pm The Exprcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 8.35pm If Only 1.15pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm The Negotiator 1.55pm. 5.10pm, 8.15pm Out of Sight 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Ronin 6.05pm, 8.40pm Rounders 1.55pm. 6.40pm Snake Eyes 4.20pm, 9.05pm There's Something About Mary 6.10pm The Truman Show 1.10pm, 3.40pm

KILBURN TRICYCLE THEATRE (0171-328 1000 My Name is Joe 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR: Kingston Antz 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Out of Sight 2.10pm, 5.20pm, 8.05pm Ronia 2.20pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm

MUSWELL HILL ODEON (08705 050007) + Highgate Antz 1.30pm. 3.45pm Blade 5.45pm, 8.15pm Mulan Sight 2.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm Ronin 3.05pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm

PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye Antz 12.20pm 5.50pm, 7.40pm Elizabeth 3.50pm 6.30pm, 9pm Mulan 12.10pm The 9.15pm out of Sight 3.40pm. 6.25pm. 9pm A Perfect Murder 4.40pm. 7.05pm. 9.25pm Ronin 4.05pm. 6.35pm. 9.15pm Snake Eyes 9.30pm

ABC (0870-9020407) BR: Purley Antz 6.15pm, 8.25pm out of Sight 5.10pm, 8pm Ronin 5.30pm, 8.20pm

PUTNEY ABC (0870 9020401) ← Putney Bridge, BR: Putney, Artz 2,15pm, 4,15pm, 6,15pm Elizabeth 8,15pm The Negotiator 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm out of Sight 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm

ODEON (08705 050007) BR/+ Richmond The Negotiator 2.15pm, 5.40pm, 8.40pm Out of Sight 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 9pm Ronin 12.40pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm

ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007) ODEON STUDIO (08705 050007)
BR/OP Richmond Antz 1.10pm,
3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.40pm, 9.40pm
Blade 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm,
9.10pm Elizabeth 3.40pm, 9pm
Rounders 1.10pm, 6.10pm Slums
OF Beverly Hills 2.10pm, 4.30pm,

ROMFORD ABC (0870-9020419) BR: Rom-ford Antz 5.55pm Blade 8.25pm Out of Sight 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm Ronin 2.20pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 2.05pm, 4.15pm,

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 050007) BR: Romford Antz 12.10pm, 2.15pm, 4.15pm, 6.15pm Blade 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.35pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 3.15pm, 8.25pm If Only 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Les Misérables 8.05pm The Negotiator 1.45pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm Out of Sight 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Ronin 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Rounders 12.45pm, 5.50pm Small Soldiers 12.30pm. 3pm, 5.50pm There's Something About Mary 8.20pm

ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup Antz 6pm Out of Sight 5.40pm, 8.20pm Ronin 8.15pm

STAPLES CORNER

VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Cricklewood Antz 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Blade 1.20pm, 4pm. 6.40pm, 9.20pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 9om The Ne-Out of Sight 1pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 9.15pm Ronin 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm There's Something About Mary 3.30pm, 6.10pm

STREATHAM (0870-9020415) Streatham Hill Antz 2.15pm 4.20pm, 6.25pm, 8.40pm Out of Sight 2.25pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 2.10pm.

4.25pm, 6.40pm, 8.45pm Streatham Hill/ Brixton/Clapham ommon Blade 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.40pm. 8.20pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 12.20pm, 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm If Only 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Negotiator 1.40pm, 5.10pm, 8.10pm Ronin 12.30pm,

3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm STRATFORD NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR/O Stratford East Antz 1pm, 2.50pm, 7pm Blade 2pm, 6.35pm The Ne-gotiator 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Out of Sight 1.45pm, 6.15pm. 8.45pm The Wisdom Of Crocodiles

4.20pm, 9pm SURREY QUAYS UCI (0990 888990) ← Surrey Quays Antz 2.45pm, 5pm, 7.30pm Blade 3.20pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Buffalo 66 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 9.15pm The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) 8.45pm Hope Floats 5.50pm Les Misérables 6.35pm Mulan 2pm, 4.15pm The Negotla-tor 3.40pm, 6.45pm, 9.45pm Out of Sight 4.05pm, 7pm, 9.55pm The Player's Club 10.05pm Ronin 3.10pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm Rounders

9.20pm Small Soldiers 3pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles 2.15pm. UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR; Sutton/O Morden Aritz 1pm, 3.15pm, 5.30pm Blade 4pm, 7pm, 9.45pm Elizabeth 8.45pm The Land Girls 3pm The Last Days of Disco 6.30pm Les Miserables 3.45pm The Negotiator 2.45pm, 6pm, 9.15pm Out of Sight 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Ronin 6.45pm,

TURNPIKE LANE CORONET (0181-888 2519) + Tumpike Lane. Antz 4pm. 6pm Elizabeth 3.10pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm Out of Sight 3.20pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm Ronin 8.25pm

9.30pm Saving Private Ryan

ODEON (08705 050007) +

Uxbridge Antz 1,45pm, 3,55pm Out of Sight 1.40pm, 5.35pm, 8.20pm Ronin 5.45pm, 8.25pm

stow Central Antz 1.40pm, 3.40pm Blade 8.15pm Out of Sight 2.05pm, 4.50pm, 8.10pm Ronth 5.30pm The Wisdom of Crocodiles

1.45pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm **WALTON ON THAMES** THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) BR: Walton on Thames Antz 3.40pm The Negotiator 2.35pm, 5.25pm, 8.10pm Out of WILLESDEN
BELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822) 6.30pm, 9pm

WIMELEDON ODEON (08705 050007) BR/O Wimbledon/O South Wimbledon Antz 1.30pm, 3.15pm, 5pm, 6,45pm Blade 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm If Only 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Out of Sight 12.25pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Ronin 12.25pm, 3.10pm, 5.45pm,

8.30pm Rounders 8.30pm

WOODFORD ABC (0181-989 3463) + South Woodford Antz 2.15pm, 5.30pm Blade 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm Out of Sight 2.30pm, 5.40pm, 8.10pm Rounders 8.20pm

MOOI MICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) BR: Woolwich Arsenal Antz 4pm, 6pm Blade 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm

> **CINEMA** REPERTORY

LONDON CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place SW7 (0171-838 2144/2146) La Baie des Anges (15) 7.30pm

NFT South Bank SE1 (0171-928 3232) Wannabe Heroes, Screaming Queens and the Shroud of Innuendo-Male Sexuality in the Carry On Films: First Tuesday Lecture (NC) 1pm The Philadelphia Story (U) 2.30pm, 6.20pm The Story (U) 2.30pm, 0.20pm The Woman in White Parts 1-3: Tele-vision (NC) 7.30pm UKNY: UK: Shorts: International Video (NC) 8.30pm The Mosquito Coast (NC)

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place WC2 (0171-437 8181) The Horse Whisperer (PG) 2pm Fire (15) 5.15pm Titanic (12) 7.45pm

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road W6 (0171-420 0100) Padre Padrone (18) Tue 6.30pm + The Night of San Lorenzo 8.45pm

WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentford (0181-568 1176) Character (15) 4.45pm Buffalo 66 (15) 7pm My Name is

BRIGHTON CINEMATHEQUE (01273-739970) Free Radicals: Films of McClaren and Lye

DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-602503) Dr Strangelove (PG) 2pm La Vie Revée des Anges (18) 4.15pm. 9pm Funny Games (18) 6.45pm

CUBE CINEMA (0114-907 4191) Faust (Svankmajer Version) (15) 7pm Black Orpheus (PG) 9.15pm WATERSHED (0117-925 3845)

LFF on Tour: Helgoland, Babylon (NC) 6pm My Name is Joe (15) 6.05pm, 8.30pm Character (15) CAMBRIDGE

ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) La Vie Revée des Anges (18) 12.45pm, 7.10pm; Rien Ne Va Pius (15) 3pm. 9.15pm The Enigma of Kaspar Hauser (15) 5pm Poison

399666) LFF on Tour: Timeless Bottomless Bad Movie (NC) 7.30pm Funny Games (18) 8pm FILM THEATRE (01473-215544)

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-

La Grande Illusion (U) 2.30pm, 6pm, 8.15pm A Soldier's Daugh-Land Girls (12) 8.30pm

PHOENIX ARTS (0116-255 4854)

Palmetto (15) 6.05pm. 8.30pm CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) Vel-vet Goldmine (18) 2.30pm, 8.15pm

Enter the Dragon (18) 5.45pm

TEWKESBURY ROSES THEATRE (01684-295074) Elizabeth (15) 7.30pm

> CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

BRIGHTON ABC EAST STREET (01273-327010); Antz (PG): Les Mis-érables (12): Out of Sight (15); our (18); Slums of Be ly Hills (15), Small Soldiers (PG)

ODEON (01273-207977); Anta (PG): Blade (18): Elizabeth (15): If Only (15); Mulan (U); Out of Sight (15); Ronin (15); Rounders (15); sh Hour (15): There's Something About Mary (15)

VIRGIN (0541-555145): Antz (PG): Blade (18): Dr Dolittle (PG): Elizabeth (15): Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18): Godzilla (PG): Mulan (U): The Negotiator (15); Out of Sight (15): Ronin (15): Rush Hour (15): Small Soldiers (PG):

CARDIFF ABC (0541-555178); Antz (PG); Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18): For Richer or Poorer (12): Out of Sight (15): Rush Hour (15): Small Soldiers (PG); The Wicke

CAPITOL ODEON (08705-050007) Antz (PG): Bean (PG): Blade (18) The Exorcist (25th Anniversar release) (18): The Negotiato (15); Out of Sight (15); Ronin (15); Rush Hour (15); Small Soldiers (PG)

ODEON (08705-050007); If Only (15): Mulan (U): There's Something out Mary (15)

UCI 12 (0990-888990); Antz (PG); Blade (18); Cousin Bette (15); Elizabeth (15): If Only (15); Les Misérables (12); Mulan (U); The Negotiator (15); Tim Burton's the Out of Sight (15); Ronin (15); Rush Hour (15); Siums of Beverly Hills (15): Small Soldiers (PG): Snake Eyes (15): The Soldier (Asian Film) (NC): There's Something

About Mary (15) ABC (0541-560567); Antz (PG); The Daytrippers (15); Dr Dollttle (PG) Only (15): Out of Sight (15) Paulie (U): Rush Hour (15); Slums of Beverly Hills (15); Small Soldiers

Negotiator (15): Ronin (15)

(PG); The Truman Show (PG) ODEON (08705-050007): Blade (18); Dr Dolittle (PG); Godzilla (PG); Lost in Space (PG); Mulan (U); The

THEATRE

Ticket availability details are for today, times and prices for the week: ilng times include intervals. Seats at all prices) — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matiness — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thur, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

) ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dinner party which is interrupted by mysterious messages stars Felicity Kendal and Josie Lawrence. Glelgud Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-494 5065) & Picc Grc. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £19.50-£27.50. 130 mins.

● AMADEUS David Suchet stars as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's ped drama. Old Vic The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 7616/cc 420 0000) BR/÷ Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4] 2.30pm. [7] 3pm, £7.50-£30. 180 mins.

● ANNIE Rags-to-riches story of the optimistic orphan. Victoria Palace Victoria Street. SW1 (0171-834 1317) BR/ Victoria. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, [1] 4pm, £7.50-£32.50, 165 mins.

) ART Larry Lamb, Jack Dee, Tim ficaly in Yasmina Reza's come about art and friendship. Wyn ham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) ⊕ Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm, [4] 3pm. [7][1] 5pm, £9.50-£27.50. 90 mins.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lav-

ish family musical based on Disney's

cartoon version of the lavourite la

tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road. W1 (0171-656 1888) & Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30 pm, £18.50-£35. **● THE BEST OF TIMES Revue-**

style show leaturing the songs of Jerry Herman. Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/& Charing X. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm. [4][7] 3.30pm, £9.50-£27.50.

● BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musical melodrama. Phoenix Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) ◆ Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5] 3pm. [7] 4pm. £11.50-£32.50. 165 mins.

DELUEBIRD New drama telling the bleak and violent stories of a cabbie's fares, preceded by a new short, When Brains Don't Count. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambas-sadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) ← Leic Sq. 1. 2, 7 Dec, 9pm. 10p-£10. Mon - all seats £5. double bill (7.15pm & 9pm perfor-mances on same night) £7.50-£15.

● BOOGLE NIGHTS Shane Richie stars in a new 1970s musical. Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/c 836 0479) Charing X/Embank-ment. Mon-Thur 8pm. Fri-Sat 8.30pm. [6] 5.30pm. [7] 5pm. ends 9 Jan. £11-£28.50. 150 mins.

 BUDDY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800) ⊕ Covent Garden/Charing X. Tue-Thur 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats |1| 4pm, £10-£27, Fri mats half price. 160 mins.

CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New Lon-don Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc 404 4079) & Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [3][7] 3pm. £12.50-£35. 165 mins.

O CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Peter Davison star in this hit Broadway musical. Adelphi Malden Lane. X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £16-£36 (incl booking fee). 130 mins.

DCINDERELLA Angela Carter's version of this fairy tale is staged by the acclaimed Improbable Theatre. Lyric Hammersmith King Street. W6 Today 10.30am & 1,30pm, ends 9 Jan, £5-£18, concs £6.50.

THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company's keenlyterion Piccadilly Čircus, W1 (0171-369 1747) & Picc Circ. Tue

8pm, £6-£25, 120 mins. **DEAD MONKEY** Nick Darke's black comedy stars David Sout. Whitehall Whitehall. SW1 (0171-369 1735/cc 867 1111) BR/O Charing X. Tue-Sat 8.30pm, [6][7] 5.30pm. ends 19 Dec. £19-£25. 120 mins.

DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield talks to the animals in this new stage adaptation featuring Jim Hen son Puppets, London Apollo Hammersmith Queen Caroline Street, W6 (0171-416 6022) → Hammersmith. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, E10-E32.50, 150 mins.

FAME THE MUSICAL High-oc tane stage show charting the highs and lows of a class of young showbiz hopefuls. Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5972) 🗢 Le ic Sq/Picc Circ. Mon-Thur 8pm, Frt 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 4pm & 8pm,

ends 16 Jan, £15-£30. O FILUMENA Judi Dench and Michael Pennington star in Timber-lake Wertenbaker's new translation of Eduardo De Filippo's play. Pic-cadilly Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) & Picc Circ. Tonight 8pm.

ends 27 Feb. £12-£30. 120 m ● GREASE Energetic stage version of the hit film about life in an American high school. Cambridge Eartham Street. WC2 (0171-494 5080) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm,

[4][7] 3pm, £10-£30. 150 mins. AN IDEAL HUSBAND Christopher Cazenove and Susannah York in Peter Hall's acclaimed production of Wilde's comedy. Lyric Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-494 5045) Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7 45r

3pm, [7] 4pm, £8-£29.50. 165 mins. AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller. Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) & Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm,

Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 5pm, £10.50-£25, 110 mins, O INTO THE WOODS Sondhein and Lapine's acclaimed musical pased on fairy tale. Donmar Warehouse Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 2.30pm. E15-E27.50.

THE INVENTION OF LOVE TOD Stoppard's play about the life of po-et AE Houseman, author of The Shropshire Lad. Theatre Royal,

) LOVE UPON THE THRONE Tasteful look at the Charles and Diana marriage. Comedy Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) Price Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4][7] 3pm. ends 31 Jan, £6-£25.

LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterpiece. Palace Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-434 0909) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £7-£35. 195 mlns

• MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Modom Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060) O Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £5.75-£35.

THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodumnit. St Martin's West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) Deic Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 2,45pm, [7] 5pm, £9-£23. 135 mirs.

O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical. Her Majesty's Haymarket, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 344 4444) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm. £10-£35. 150 mins.) PHEDRE Diana Rigg stars in Ted Hughes' new translation of Racine's

tragedy. Albery St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730/cc 867 1111) • RENT Musical inspired by La Boheme and set in modern day New York, Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (07000-211221) & Holborn/fott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £12.50-£32.50.160 mins.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE O OLIVIER: Antony and Cleopatra Helen Mirren and Alan Rickman star as the sensually self-destructive ers. 1-3 Dec. 7pm, ends 3 Dec.

● LYTTELTON: The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie Fiona Shaw stars as the Scottish schoolmistress in this as the scoular schloring ress in this new adaptation of the classic novel by Muriel Spark. In rep. today 2.15pm & 7.30pm, ends 12 Dec. 155 mins.

O COTTESLOE: Copenhagen New drama from Michael Frayn about the discovery of the atom. Tonight 7.30pm, ends 27 Jan. 145 mins. Olivier & Lyttelton: £8-£27. Cottesloe: £12-£19. Day seats from 10am. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000).

O SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hit 1970s musical featuring legendary songs plus three new tracks by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia. London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020)

Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 2.30pm. E10-£32.50. 135 mins.

Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musical Apollo Victoria Wilton Road. SWI (0171-416 6070) BR/ ◆ Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [3][7] 3pm. £12.50-£30. 150 mins. I THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE Be

■ STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew

linda Lang stars in Alan Ayekbourn's comedy. Duchess Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 344 4444) © Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, £15-£27.50. 140 mins. TRADE Depiction of a dysfunctional family from Richard Oberg.

Preceded by a short, In the Family. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Leic Sq. 1, 2, 7-12 Dec. 7.15pm, 10p-£10, Mon - all seats £5, double bill {7.15pm & 9pm performances on same night) £7.50-£15. THE WEIR Conor McPherson's

drama is set in Ireland and examines Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of York's) St Martin's Lane. WC2 (0171-565 5000) ⊕ Leic Sq/Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3.30pm, £5-£25, 90 mins. **● WEST SIDE STORY** Brand new

musical, attempting to recreate the feel of the original Broadway hit. Prince Edward Old Compton Street. W1 (0171-447 5400) & Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5][7] 3pm, £15-£35. 160 mins. O WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND ovd Webber's new musical based

production of Bernstein's classic

on the film of the same name about children who mistake an escaped convict for Jesus. Aldwych Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6000) O Holborn. Mon-Sat 7,45pm. [5][7] 3pm, £10-£32.50. 120 mins.

• THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susan Hill's chilling ghost story is chillingly effective. Fortune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 344 4444) O Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 8pm. [3] 3pm. [7] 4pm. E8.50-£23.50. 110 mins.

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

ALMEIDA THEATRE The Storm Frank McGuinness' new version of Ostrovsky's uplifting drama. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Sat 3pm, ends 19 Dec. E6.50-£19.50. Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) & Angel/High-

ARTS THEATRE Ecstasy Mike Leigh's moving comedy is present-ed by About Face. Tue-Sat 8pm, Sun 7pm, ends 20 Dec. £12.50-15.50, concs £7.50-£10.50. Great Newport t, WC2 (0171-836 3334/cc 741

9999) O Leicester Square. CANAL CAFE THEATRE Silent Night Steven Berkoff's tale of Christ-mas loneliness receives its stage pre-miere. Tue-Sat 8pm, ends 12 Dec. £6, concs £4. Bridge House Pub. Delamere Terrace, W2 (0171-289

Malcolm and His Struggle Against The Eunuchs Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Halliwell's drama. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 3.30pm, ends 2 Jan. £9-£16, concs £6. Avenue Road, NW3 (0171-722 9301) ⊕ Swiss Cottage.

LYRIC STUDIO Fourteen Songs, Two Weddings and a Funeral Stage version of a Bollywood blockbuster. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 5 Dec. £9, concs £5. King Street. W6 (0181-741 2311) O Hammersmith.

THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

BATH THEATRE ROYAL Popcorn Emma Noble stars in Ben Elton's satire on cinema violence. 1 & 2 Dec. 7.30pm. 3 Dec. 8pm. 4 & 5 Dec, 6pm & 9pm. £11-£21, concs available. Sawclose (01225-448844)

Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (0171-369 1730) to 12 Dec

BLANDFORD FORUM BRYANSTON ARTS CENTRE Robin Hood and the Enchanted Forest The Merry Men encounter magic and mayhem in Sherwood Forest Today 10.30am & 2.30pm, ends 5 Dec. £6. concs £5.50. Bryanston (01258-456533)

First Call

Last Call

ALMOST TWO decades on, But Out of Hell still retains its

power. Despite coming from an age when rock dinosaurs

prowled the airwaves, Jim Steinman's music, lyrics and

crashing production remain phenomenally popular.

But Meat Loaf (right) is still a dab hand at seductive rock

halladry as proved by his last single, "I Will Do Anything

for Love". Prior to the release of a new album, Meat Loaf,

Birmingham NEC (0121-780 4133) 23 & 25 Mar;

Wembley Arena (0181-902 8833) 30 Mar; SECC Glasgow

(0141-248 3000) 4 Apr; Newcastle Arena (0191-260 5000)

6 Apr., Manchester Evening News Arena (0161-950 5000)

THE ALMEIDA'S season by French playwright, Jean

Racine, comes to a close with one of his lesser-known

tragedies. Brittanicus is a tale of political intrigue with

pre-Freudian overtones. Performed by a superb cast,

it stars Diana Rigg as the intimidating and forceful

mother of Nero, the newly enthroned Roman Emperor,

played by Toby Stephens (son of actress Maggie Smith).

8 Apr; Sheffield Arena (0114-256 2002) 10 Apr

the great rock survivor, goes on tour.

THEATRE ROYAL The Woman in Black Frank Finlay stars. 1-5 Dec. 7.45pm. £7.50-£15.50. concs available. Bond Street (01273-328488)

KOMEDIA The Prince of West End Avenue Kerry Shale plays 14 characters in his adaptation of Alan Ishler's play about life in a New York Jewish retirement home. 1 & 2 Dec. 8.30pm. £7.50, concs £6. rdner Street (01273-277772)

NEW VIC STUDIO Disco Pigs Acclaimed contemporary learning Acclaimed contemporary love story from Enda Walsh. 1 & 2 Dec. 7.30pm, 3-5 Dec, 8pm. £9, conce £6. King Street (0117-987 7877)

THEATRE ROYAL A Christmas Carol Andy Hay's adaptation of Dickens' Christmas classic. Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm, mats Thur & Sat. 2.30pm, ends 5 Dec. £5-£19. concs £3-£16. King Street (0117-987 7877)

SHERMAN THEATRE The Secret Seven Save the World New adventure, courtesy of Enid Blyton, and set in 1999. Today 10am & 2pm. £6-£10. concs available. Speed the Plow David Mamet's exhilarating story about two film executives who have just 24 hours to cast a new action movie. 1-3 Dec. 8pm. £8. Senghenydd Road (01222-230451)

COLCHESTER MERCURY THEATRE The Complete Works of William Shakespears (Abridged) Reduced Shakespears Company fast-forwards through 37 plays. 1 & 2 Dec. 7.30pm, 3-5 Dec. 8pm. £6.50-£15.50, concs available. Balkerne Gate (01206-573948)

ORCHARD THEATRE The Taming of the Shrew Battle of the sexes comedy from English Touring Theatre. 1-5 Dec. 7.30pm. £10-£14.

WOLSEY THEATRE Macbeth Wolsey Theatre's production is given a post nuclear holocaust set-ting. Tue-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 8pm. Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 5 Dec. £5-£14, concs available. Civid Drive (01473-253725)

HAYMARKET THEATRE Singin' in the Rain High-water mark of Amer-ican musicals. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. mats Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 6 Feb. E19.50. Belgrave Gate (0116-253 9797) HAYMARKET THEATRE STUDIO

Belgrave Gate (0116-2539797) STANTONBURY CAMPUS THEATRE Beggar's Belief New piece from Trestle Theatre inspired by the paintings of Breugel. 1-3 Dec. 7.30pm. £8, concs £4. Purbeck

Arrange That Marriage Acutely observed Asian comedy. Tue-Sat 7.45pm. ends 12 Dec. £4-£7.

Way, Stantonbury (01908-224234) NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE Jack and the Beanstalk Kenneth Alan Taylor writes and directs his 15th consecutive pantomime for Notting ham Playhouse. 1-4 Dec. 2.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 23 Jan. £9-£12, child £5-£8. East Circus Street (0115-941

THE MILL AT SONNING Worm's Eye Vlew Comedy about a wartime landlady forced to house airmen and protect her daughter from their attentions. Tue-Sat 8.15pm, mat Sat 2.15pm, ends 9 Jan. £21.95-£32.95 incl meal. Sonning Eye (0118-969 8000)

SOUTHAMPTON MAYFLOWER THEATRE The Rocky Horror Show Jason Donovan star classic rock'n'roll musical, 1 Dec-3 Dec. 8pm, 4 & 5 Dec. 5pm & 9pm. £10-£22, concs available. Commercial Road (01703-711811)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe Adrian Noble directs Adrian Mitchell's adaptation of the CS Lewis Namia classic. 1 Dec. 7pm. 2 Dec. 1.30pm, 2-4 Dec. 7.15pm, ends 27 Feb. E5-E30. Waterside (01789-295623)

SWAN THEATRE A Month in the Country Brian Friel's adaptation of Turgenev's portrait of all-consumi sexual desire. Michael Attenbor ough directs. Tonight 7.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £5-£30. Waterside (01789-295623) WOKING **NEW VICTORIA THEATRE Smoke**

loe's Care - The Songs of Leibe

and Stoller The rock and roll hit-

makers celebrated in a musical

revue. 1 Dec-3 & 5 Dec, 8pm, 4 Dec. 6pm & 8.45pm. £7-£22.50. Pea-

cocks Arts & Entertainments Cen-

tre (01483-761144)

HOLBURNE MUSEUM AND

EXHIBITIONS

CRAFTS STUDY CENTRE Master Weaver: Peter Collingwood Major exhibition exploring Collingwood's in-novative work. Mon-Sat 11 am-5pm. Sun 2.30pm-5.30pm, ends 11 Dec. E3.50, OAP E3, UB40/60+ E2, child E1.50, family E7 (to museum). Great Pulteney Street (01225-463362)

BRIGHTON BRIGHTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY Maquettes: Henry Moore Maquettes, working models and graphics exhibition. Mon. Tue. Thur-Sat 10am-5pm. Sun 2pm-5pm. ends 10 Jan, free. Church Street (01273-290900)

GARDNER ARTS CENTRE Animal Farm: Ralph Steadman Specially sioned drawings illustrating Orwell's novel. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm, ends 5 Dec, free. University of Sussex, Lewes Road (01273-685861)

CAMBRIDGE FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM From Polidoro to Salvator Rosa Draw-ings and prints forming the best of Italian Barroque. Ends 23 Dec. British Watercolours from the Oppe Collection Including works by Nirner and Constable. Ends 24 Jan. The Society of Three: Whistler, Fantin-Latour and Alphonse Legros Exhibition of drawing and prints examining the common stylistic ground of the three artists. Tue-Sat 0am-5pm. Sun 2.15pm-5pm, ends 14 Feb. free. Trumpington Street (01223-332900)

LONDON ICA GALLERY Die Young Stay Pretty Sculpture, collage, paintings and cut outs by 11 young artists. Mon-5un 12noon-7.30pm. ends 10 Jan. £1.50, concs £1. Sat-Sun £2.50, concs £1.50. The Mall, SW1 (0171-930 3647) @ Charing Cross.

NATIONAL GALLERY Mirror Image: Jonathan Miller On Reflection Mirrors and reflections in art from Van Eyck to Helen Chadwick. Ends 13 Dec. £5.50, concs £3.50, incl audio guide. Drawings and paintings by the artist who influenced Raphael and Michelangelo. Mon & Tue, Thur-Sat

12noon-6pm, ends 31 Jan, free. Trafalgar Square. WC2 (0171-839 3321) ⊕ Charing Cross. ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Critical Mass: Antony Gormley Sixty casts of human bodies. Mon-Sun

10am-6pm. Wed 10am-8pm. Sun

all dav, ends 16 Dec. free. Clay Exploring the ceramic works of the 20th-century artist. Ends 16 Dec. £7, OAP/UB40 £6, NUS £5. child 12-18 £2.50. child 8-11 £1. Life? or Theatre?: the Work of Charlotte Salomon Powerful pair ings made between 1940 and 1942. Mon-Thur, Sat & Sun 10am-6pm, 10am-8.30pm, ends 17 Jan. £5.50 UB40/OAP £4.50. NUS £4, child 12-18 £2.50, child 8-11 £1. Burlington House, Piccadilly. W1 (0171-300

8000) O Green Park. TATE GALLERY In Celebration: The Art of the Country House Including work by Canaletto, Stubbs and Holbein. Ends 28 Feb. free. Turner Prize 1998 Work by Chris Ofili, Cathy De Monchaux, Tacita Dean and Sam Taylor-Wood. Ends 10

John Singer Sargent Comprehen-sive exhibition devoted to the artist. Ends 17 Jan. £6, concs £4, Missing - Jean-Marc Bustamante Installation exploring international cities in photographs. Opens 1 Dec. Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends Jan 31, free. Millbank, SW1 (0171-887 8000) ← Pimlico.

VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM Aubrey Beardsley The illustrator's life and work explored in 200 drawings and prints. Ends 10 Jan. Grinling Gibbons and the Art of Carving Work by the 17th century woodcarver, Ends 24 Jan. Precious-metal jewellery. Ends 15 Feb. Elsewhwere - Protographs From the Americas and Asia: Hen-

subjects by the 90 year-old photographer. Mon 12noon-5.45pm.

Tue-Sun 10am-5.45pm, ends 12 Apr.

concs £3,

18s/UB40/mems/disabled/NUS/after 4.30pm free. Cromwell Road, SW7 (0171-938 8441) & South MAIDSTONE MAIDSTONE MUSEUM and ART GALLERY The Disparates: Goya Late satirical etchings. Mon-Sat 10am-5.15pm, Sun 11am-4pm, ends 3 Jan. phone for prices. St Faith's Street (01622-754497)

ST IVES ST IVES TATE GALLERY English Roots: Eric Cameron Thousands of layers of paint surrounding organic objects. Displays 1998-9: Partnerships and Practice Paintings and ceramics from the second half of the

Marble sculpture linking St Ives with Montserrat in the West Indies Mon-Sat 11am-7pm, Sun 11am 5pm, ends 11 Apr. £3.50, concs £2. CLASSICAL

BRISTOL ST GEORGE'S BRANDON HILL London Sinfonietta/Masson Joined by percussionist Evelyn Glennie in Kenakis, Kagel and Piazzolla. Tonight 8pm. £12. concs £8. Brandon Hill (Ó117-923 0359)

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

LONDON
BARBICAN HALL The Theatre of Eternal Music The endiess static harmonies of arch-Minimalist La QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL London Philharmonic Youth

Orchestra/Volkov Russian music including Rimsky-Korsakov's Snow Maiden Suite. Tonight 7.45pm. £5-£16. South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/@ Waterloo. **ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL Viennese** Gala Featuring the BBC Concert Orchestra. Tonight 7.30pm. £7.50-£22.50. South Bank, SE1 (0171-960

OPERA

4242) BR/O Waterloo.

LONDON THE GLADYS CHILD THEATRE lolanthe Gilbert and Sullivan's comic classic in a production by Southgate College Opera. Tonight 7.30pm. E7-E9. High Street, Southgate, N14 (0181-350 5772) & Southgate.

LONDON COLISEUM The Barber of Seville Revival of ENO's production originally directed by Jonathan Miller Tonight 7.30pm. £5-£55. St. Martin's Lane. WC2 (0171-632 8300) & Leicester Square/Charing Cross.

DANCE

BRIGHTON **GARDNER ARTS CENTRE Richard** Alston Dance Company: Triple Bill Programme includes Movements From Petrushka. Red Run and Waltzes in Disorder. Tonight 7.45pm. of Sussex, Lewes Road (01273-

LONDON PURCELL ROOM Sheron Wray And Julian Joseph The dancer and anist explore jazz through their spective disciplines. Tonight 8pm. £12. concs £10. South Bank, SE1

6858611

(0171-960 4242) BR/ Waterloo ROUNDHOUSE Stomp Eight performers create a rhythmic sym-phony. Tue-Sat 8pm, mats Sat & Sur 4pm. ends 27 Dec. £10-£25. Chalk Farm Road, NW1 (0171-420 0000)

LITERATURE

LONDON BLUE NOSE POETRY OPEN WORKSHOPS Fortnightly meeting for writers. Bring ten copies of a po em along Golden Square Books The Village SE7 (0181-352 0813) BR: Charlton, Tonight 7.15pm-9.45pm, E4.50, concs E3.

OZ CLARKE WINE TASTING Wine tasting and expert guidance from the author of Wine Guide 1998. Freud's Cafe Walton Street (01865-792792)

COMEDY

ÉE HURST - UN-IRONED AT ST DAVID'S HALL The former star of They Think It's All Over Tonight 7.30pm. £10 & £12. The Hayes (01222-878444)

LONDON JACKIE MASON - MUCH ADO ABOUT EVERYTHING AT PLAY-HOUSE THEATRE The celebrated former Rabbi holds court. Mon-Sat 8pm. Sun 5.30pm. £12-£25. Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839 4409) @ Embanker

COMEDY CAFE Milton Jones, Andre Vincent, MC Martin Davis, Tonight 8pm, phone for availability. Rivington Street. EQ (0171-739 5706) Oid Street.

CLUBS

BRIGHTON SUSST AT THE HONEY CLUB Indie old and new. Tonight 10pm-2am, free. King's Road Arches 2am, free. King (01273-202807)

LONDON INDIGO AT MADAME JO JO'S Felchley Hawkes and DJ Karminsky play easy listening Tonight 9pm 2am. Brewer Street, W1 (0171-734 2473) O Piccadilly Circus, £7, concs/before 10.30pm £5.

FORGERY AT DOGSTAR Patrick Forge and Richard Welch play jazzy disco, drum n bass, Latin and house. Tonight 9pm-2am. Coldharbour Lane, SW9 (0171-733 7515) BR/O **EVENTS**

EXETER A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS EXHI-BITION The essence of Victorian Christmas with costume, cards, books, cribs and cake, plus the development of Christmas celebra-tions since the Victorian era. Royal Albert Memorial Museum Queen Street (01392-265858) Mon-Sat

10am-5pm, ends 2 Jan, free.

LONDON THE GREAT CHALLENGE 1998 International political cartoon exhi-hition, in aid of Amnesty Internaional, Index on Censorship and the Cartoon Art Trust. The Gallery. Ono Tower Wharf ground floor Barge-house Street SE1 (0171-928 6193) Waterloo. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm, ends 23 Dec. free (donations wel-

SWINDON **COUNTRY HOUSE CHRISTMAS A** chance to see a Victorian style Christ-mas with the State Rooms decked in greenery gathered from the Park. Ly-diard House Lydiard Country Park (01793-770401) Mon-Fri 10am-1pm, 2pm-4pm, Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 2pm-4pm, ends 31 Dec. 80p. child

MUSIC

BOURNEMOUTH TOM JONES The Welsh superstar, now signed to indie label Gut Records, slips easily into a more contemporary groove. Bournemouth International Centre Exeter Road (01202-456456) Tonight 8pm, £22-

SOUTEZE, DEAN JOHNSON Difford & Tilbrook, back out there for a comprehensive UK tour. The Regent St Helens Street (01473-281480) Tonight 8pm. £12.50-£14.

HANK DOGS, POLAR STAR, 95 SOUTH, PHI BETA RHO, ADRIAN ROPER Twisted country rock band headline with material from their acclaimed Bareback CD, 12 Bar Club Denmark Place WC2 (0171-916 6989) O Tottenham Court Road Tonight 8pm. £5.

BLACK BOX RECORDER, THE PARADISE MOTEL Haines, Nixey and Moore garner more critical ac claim, playing effortlessly cynical England Made Me album. The Garage Highbury Comer N5 (0171-607 1818/cc 0171-344 0044) Tube/BR: Highbury & Islington. Tonight 8pm. £7.

NORWICH HUGH CORNWELL The former Stranglers man, playing an electric and semi-acoustic set. The Waterfront King Street (01603-632717/cc 764764) Tonight 8pm, £8.

Princess Theatre Torbay Road (01803-290290) Tonight 7.30pm,

HANK MARVIN Tour for the British

guitarist, In & Out Of The Shadows.

MUSIC JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

BRIDGWATER DICK GAUGHAN Passionate Scottish socialism from the former Boys of the Lough, Five Hand Reel and Cian Alba member Bridgwater Arts Centre Castle Street (01278-422700) Tonight 8.30pm. £6. concs £4.50. CAMBRIDGE

BILLY JENKINS' BLUES COLLEC-

TIVE Manic guitarist with his own

personal perspective on the blues. Boat Race East Road (01223-508533) Tonight 8pm, £8, men **ROY AYERS' UBIQUITY Vibes mae** stro much loved by the acid-jazz set.
Jazz Cafe Parkway NWI (0171-916
6060) • Camden Town. Tonight

8.30pm, £15, adv £12.50. MARTIN TAYLOR/BIRELLI LA-GRENE VIrtuoso Django inspired gui-tar duo. Pizza Express Jazz Club Dean Street W1 (0171-439 8722) ⊕ Tottenham Court Road, Tonigh 9pm, £20.

JOHN WILSON STRINGS/SARAH MOULE Smooth entertainment from jazz vocalist with string accompaniment. Pizza on the Park Knights-bridge SW1 (0171-235 5273) O Hyde Park Corner. Tonight 9.15pm & 11.15pm, £18, adv £16.

RAY GASKINS High-octane soul-jazz from former Roy Ayers tenor man. Ronnie Scott's Frith Street W1 (0171-439 0747) & Leicester Square. Tonight 9.30pm, £12, mems £4, NUS £8 (Mon-Thu); £15, mems £8 (Fri-Sat).

MEDIAEVAL BAEBES Twelve-piece female vocal group doing early choral music, with Katharine Blake of Gothhistorians Miranda Sex Garden at the helm. The Hexagon Queens Walk (0118-960 6060) Tonight 7.30pm. phone for prices

DEADING

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THE TUESDAY REVIEW

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TUESDAY RADIO

RADIO . (976-99.8MHz FM) 6.30 Zoe Ball. 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Revin Greening 2.00 Mark Radcliffe 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Dave Pearce 8.00 Stave Lamaco - the Evening Session 10-00 Digital Update 10.10 John Peel. 12.00 The Breezeblock. 2.00 Clive Warren. 4.00 - 6.30 Scott Mils.

RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Serah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wegan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 John Inverdale. 2.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Evelyn Glennie's Classics. 8.00 Nigel Ogden. 9.00 Some Like It Wilder. See Pick of the Day. 10.00 Cole Porter: Night and Day. 10.30 Richard Allinson, 12.00 Lynn Parsons. 3.00 - 4.00 Alex

(90.2-92.4MHz FM) **6.00** On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Mozart.

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert (R) 2.00 The BBC Orchestras.

4.00 Voices. 4.45 Music Machine. **5.00** In Tune. 7.45 Performance on 3. Live from the Queen's Hall, Edinburgh, continuing a season of chamber

8.25 The House of Fear. Four interval programmes of readings from the surrealist works of Leonora Carrington. In these small and concentrated portions, the oddest elements from metaphysics, fantasy, daily routine and material life are simmered together and mischievously served up. 1: The House of Fear'. Reader Eleanor Bron. 2: 'The Oval Lady'. Reader Kate Beckinsale. 8.45 Concert, part 2. Tchaikovsky: Souvenir de Flo-

9.40 Postscript. Five monologues about women. 2: 'Avril'. Played by Frances Barber. An overweight librarian hopes her life will be transformed by a kickboxer from

6.00 Never Too Late (1996) (30449). 8.00 Napoleon and Samantha (1972)

Devils (1937) (95739). 1.00 Buck and the

Magic Pracelet (1997) (62265), 3.00 And

Baby Makes Six (1979) (55772). 5.00 The

Adventures of Sharlock Holmes' Smarter

Brother (1975) (17642) **7.00** Little Bigfoot

(13826). **11.00** Herd to Kil (1990) (503159). **12.35** Mother Night (1996) (495109). **2.30**

The Tomorrow Man (1996) (466956), 445 -

(1954) (9433401). 8.00 Back to Batsan

(9293111). 1.55 Government Girl (1943)

but Came down a Mountain (1995)

Funeral (1994) (8615420). 12.00 Red

Dersu Uzala (1974) (96766395).

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

Beard (1965) (13467734). 3.10 - 6.00

4.00 Flex Hunt's Fishing World (8479062).

4.30 Waker's World (8475246). 5.00 First

Flights (2835555). 5.30 Ancient Warriors

6.30 The Lion's Share (Wild Discovery)

(2949352), 7.30 Beyond 2000 (8476975).

199826). **6.00** Animal Doctor (8496739).

(1995) (63523), 9.00 The Silence of the

Harns (1993) (55826). 10.30 Movietalk

6.00 See Devils (1937) (800666).

SKY CINEMA

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PICK OF THE DAY

visiting Europe shortly after the Second World War, his wife asked him to buy a bidet. He cabled her: "Unable obtain bidet. Suggest handstand in shower." That is a neat example of the way Wilder mixed European sophistication with Hollywood vulgarity, and a distinct tinge of misanthropy. Some Like It Wilder (9pm R2)

looks back at his career which

tor Yan Pascal Tortelier, Edward

Burrowes (treble). Dutilleux: The

10.45 Night Waves. Richard Coles

Shadows of Time. Hindemith:

reports from Edinburgh on the

opening of the new Museum of

Scotland. The museum portrays

Scottish history from prehistoric

arrived in Scotland in around

times - when the earliest peoples

8000BC - to the present day. The

sively to telling the story of Scot-

land was first recognised in the

50s. Since then, ideas about the

in national cultures have under-

building opens as Scotland ap-

proaches devolution. Richard

Coles and guests discuss the

nature of Scotland.

11.30 Jazz Notes.

RADIO 4 (92.4-94.6MHz FM)

9.30 First Nights.

12.57 Weather.

6.00 Today. 9.00 NEWS; The Choice.

9.45 Serial: Barrows Boys.

10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

11.00 NEWS; Nature: the Big

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

11.30 Wonderland Girls.

Josquin. (R)

Sleep.

gone huge changes, and the new

place the museum may have in re-

flecting and defining the changing

12.00 Composer of the Week:

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

nature of museums and their place

need for a museum devoted exclu-

Symphony in E flat.

WHILE BILLY WILDER was included such classics as Double Indemnity, Sunset Boulevard and Some Like it Hot.

Marina Warner scrutinises the relationship between people and swine in These Little Piggies (8pm R4). The humble porker been forced to carry a hefty symbolic burden all the way from Homer through to the Three Little Pigs. ROBERT HANKS



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9.50 BBC Philharmonic. Conduc-1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Full Orchestra. 2.00 NEWS; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: Motor Flight.

> 3.00 NEWS; The Exchange: 0171 3.30 Songlines. (R) 3.45 The Voice of the Little Man.

4.00 NEWS; A Good Read. 4.30 Shop Talk. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather.

6.00 Six O'Clock News.

6.30 Radio Shuttleworth. 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. Mark Lawson chairs the nightly arts programme. 7.45 Still Waters. By Ann Marie Di Mambro and Cally Phillips. Kate's birthday looms and Charlie has a proposal. Meanwhile, an encounter with the mysterious Viska has a profound effect on Douglas, and Frankie Callaghan has big plans for Joanna. With Ann Scott-Jones,

Emma Currie and Liam Brennan.

Director David Jackson Young

8.00 NEWS; These Little Piggles. As pig's heart transplants into humans become increasingly likely and concerns about meat-eating grow, Marina Warner traces a cultural history of the relationships between humans and pigs. She talks with chefs and surgeons, agriculturalists, anthropologists and vegetarians and visits the Tamworth Two in their thatched

news for visually impaired people.
9.00 NEWS; Case Notes. On World Aids Day, Graham Easton asks what a decade of campaigning and research has done to help people living with HIV and Aids. 9.30 The Choice. Michael Buerk talks to individuals who have made life-changing choices, taking them through the whole process, from the initial dilemma to living with the consequences.

10.00 The World Tonight. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Another World. In Pat Barker's new novel, a fractious family and a dying soldier reveal the past's power to haunt and distort the present. Abridged by Doreen Estall, read by Robert Glenister (7/10).

11.00 The Now Show. Comic duo Steve Punt and Hugh Dennis present the sketch and stand-up show with the regular team of Simon Munnery, Jane Bussmann, David Quantick, Nick Romero, Dan Freedman and Emma Clarke. 11.30 Talking Pictures.

12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: A Man in 12.48 Shipping Forecast.

1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

RADIO 4 LW (198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 - 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament. 2.30 - 8.35 Test Match Special

RADIO 5 LIVE (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast. 8.30 Test Match Special 9.30 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive.

7.00 News Extra. 7.30 The Tuesday Match. Russell Fuller introduces coverage of all the night's football, including action from the Worthington Cup fifth

10.00 Late Night Live. The day's big stories with Nick Robinson. Including 10.30 a full sports roundup. 11.00 News and finance, And between 11.30 and 1.00 a sharp and spirited late-night topical discussion.

1.00 Up All Night 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. **CLASSIC FM**

(100,0-101,9MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concer-3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kl-tz MW 1058Ml-tz FM) 6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Classic Countdown with Russ Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Harriet Scott / AM from 6.45 Janey Lee Grace. 7.30 Janey Lee Grace. 10.00 Mark Forrest. 1.00 James

Merritt. 4.30 - 6.30 Jeremy **WORLD SERVICE RADIO** (198kHz LW) 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Discovery. 2.00 Newsday. 2.30 Meridian (Live). 3.00 World News. 3.05

World Business Report. 3.15 Sports Roundup, 3.30 One Planet. 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today. TALK RADIO 6.00 Bill Overton and Clare Cat-

ford. 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 12.00 Lorraine Kelly. 2.00 Anna Raeburn. 4.00 Peter Deeley. 5.00 The Sports Zone. 8.0a0 James Whale. 12.00 - 6.00 lan Collins.

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS JON SPEELMAN

AS PREVIEWED on Friday, Messrs Kasparov and Kramnik were in combat this weekend (my apologies for stating that it was Saturday/Sunday rather than Friday/Saturday) with a 24-game match in the casino of the Kosmos Hotel in Moscow, at a cool \$1,000 per point.

The games, at the normal blitz time limit of five minutes each but with the unusual modification that once down to less than 20 seconds they received an extra two seconds per move, were played on a sensory board so that they could be automatically transmitted live to the Internet Chess Club (ICC - http:// www.chessclub.com).

Battle raged back and forth with Kasparov taking the early lead, being overtaken by Kramnik at the end of the first day, falling to two down with five to play but then fighting back to equality with wins as White in games 20 and 22. Two further draws then left the score a most honourable 12 all.

Even more interesting than the final result was the intense opening battle. Whereas Kramnik is fairly inexperienced in match play, Kasparov, tempered by five matches with Karpov, is ferocious. Though it was "merely" a blitz match, Kasparov, particularly as White, used the tactics he employed successfully against Anand in their Professional Chessplayers Association match in New York in 1995.

His idea is to explore all avenues of attack, so he started with two outings of 1 e4 - both drawn - tried without great success several symmetrical Englishes (1 c4 c5) with a 18 Ne2 Qe6 single Trompowsky, no less - 1 d4 19 f4 Bc7

Nf6 2 Bg5 - in the middle; and finally moved to more orthodox d4 openings. His great success was with his favourite 4 Qc2 Nimzo-Indian (1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 Qc2) - 3/3 in games 16, 18 and 20, the last albeit only after Kramnik, gulled by a big-time advantage, overpressed in a drawn ending. He also defeated Kramnik as Black in this line in games 2 and 4. Kramnik moved on in games 22 and 24 to Slavs, where he looked much more comfortable.

Nevertheless, Karpov did win game 22. After 21... Nd5 White won the h7 pawn but at the cost of the exchange. Kasparov's attack was deadly at this speed, though perhaps Black can improve. 30... BE? looks wrong. Instead, after 30... Bd4! 31 Bxd4 Qxd4 the rook can enter on a1 both attacking and defending.

White: Gary Kasparov Black: Vladimir Kramnik

Queen's Gambit Meran 1 d4 d5 20 e5 Ra2 21 Bb2 Nd5 2 c4 c6 3 Nc3 Nf6 22 Bxh7+ Kh8 4 Nf3 e6 23 Bf5 Bb6+ 5 e3 Nbd7 24 Kh1 Qh6 6 Qc2 Bd6 25 Be4 Ne3 7 Bd3 0-0 26 Qb3 Nxf1 8 0-0 dxc4 27 Rxf1 Ra7 28 Rf3 Bc8 9 Bxc4 b5 10 Bd3 Bb7 29 f5 Qd2 11 a3 a6 30 Ng3 Bf2 12 b4 a5 31 Nft Qet 13 Rb1 axb4 32 Bd3 Rd7 14 axb4 Qe7 33 e6 £xe6 34 fxe6 Rxf3 15 e4 e5 16 dxe5 Nxe5 35 exd7 Bxd7

36 gxf3 Be6

37 Qc3 1-0

CREATIVITY

17 Nxe5 Bxe5

WE ARE a nation of dog-breeders. Many Creatives wrote in about their fax terriers, deceivers, receivers and grate danes.

Fiona and John Earle, mean-

while, have a chiz chiz hua hua, to replace both rhythm brush and muted trumpet at jazz sessions, and an ilk hound, to detect Highland chieftains at 500 yards. Philip Marlow's savoyed can bark along to Gilbert and Sullivan, while his stringer spaniel originated, like RA Carter's hackshund, in Fleet Street. Tom Gaunt's Goulden retriever will select wines for you John, Janet and Joanne Morton's English settler nied early migrants to the US, their Irish settler drinks Guinness by the pint, and their great Newfoundlander's ancestor accompanied Christopher Columbus. Chris Parry has both a dear hound for when he needs a status symbol and a cheap hound for days when he just can't be bothered. Leslie Hughes has a melancholy for those pessimistic moments, and a whippet for shoplifting expeditions. John Harris's dockshund finds remedies for nettle stings. Ross Lambert's cooker spaniel is making a killing in Clerkenwell; his Rachmanese does the same in the bedsits of King's Cross, Peter B Thomas's Dogwood merely shrubs when asked to do something, and his Italian chow simply won't stay at home. Kate Dash's English toy is a marvellous companion for the bored housewife. Harry Karstens' Jeremy Bea-

gle annoys his neighbours. Robert

came with a free satellite dish. Eric Dunkley needs a painter to touch up scratches from his wire-brush terrier. PM Cooper has a Fealyham for the visually challenged, a Hague terrier (a sort of bald chihuahua) and a wire-haired chihuahua for unblocking drains. Patrizia Gargiulo has an example of the papal anticontraception dog, the Irish letter.

and Joyce Aspland's Sky terrier

Bill Palmer's follie guards the Millennium Dome. Angel and Chris Jones's Jarvis Cocker spaniel defecates to the tune of "Earth Song". Bruce Birchall's Rot-wailer barks on about how the country is going to the children for walks and loses them. Andrew Duncan's béarnaise mountain dog adds sauce to any adventure, and, finally, Max Neill's shiatsu gives a great massage. Chombers Dictionaries of Quotations to PM Cooper and Fiona and John Earle.

This week, Bruce Birchall would like to give you an opportunity to influence British constitutional history. New Labour proposes to get rid of the House of Lords in its present form. But what are they going to replace it with? They don't say. You, however, will no doubt send some brilliant suggestions to Creativity. The Independent, 18th Floor, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL. The top two, or threeif someone has won one for suggesting the week's theme, will win a copy of the Chambers Dictionary of Quotations. Results two weeks from today.

SATELLITE AND CABLE

8.40 In Touch. Peter White with

sty. See Pick of the Day.

PICK OF THE DAY

(79555). **10.00** Batman and Robin (1997) (39352). **12.00** The Swan Princess: the Secret of the Castle (1997) (1870604). 1.20 Never Too Late (1996) (36653710). some roles whose artistic (1994) (974604). 4.45 Swan Princess: the quality was open to question. Secret of the Castle (1997) (9305)97). 6.00 Titanic (1996) (220802). 8-30 Bat-Not that he minded much. As man and Robin (1997) (48604). 10.30 Dihe put it: "nothing is beneath me abolique (1996) (68009468), 12.25 Last if it pays well." Quite right, too. of the High Kings (1996) (683289). 2.10 After films such as Wuthering Barb Wire (1996) (920579). 3.50 - 6.00 Heights, Henry V, Hamlet and A Modern Affair (1994) (27596519). The Entertainer, nobody could really fault his cinematic CV. 6.00 And Rahy Makes Six (1979) (11623). 7.30 The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes' That is examined in depth in Smarter Brother (1975) (76837178), 9.45 Little Bigfoot (1995) (44388555), 11.00 Sea tonight's Hollywood Hall of

TOWARDS THE end of his career, which is followed by his Laurence Olivier (right) took highly memorable performance opposite Joan Fontaine in Alfred Hitchcock's 1940 version of Rebecca (10pm).

Cliff Morgan may be known to younger generations as the long-running presenter of Radio 4's Sport on 4, but the man who is profiled in Dickie Davies' Sporting Heroes (2pm Sky Sports 3) was also a great Welsh rugby player in his time. JAMES RAMPTON



8.00 Coltrans's Planes and Automobiles (2831739), 8.30 Flightline (2810246), 9.00 Extreme Machines (5199994), 10.00 Nightfighters (5192081). 11.00 Tanks! A History of the Tank at War (9860307). 12.00 Survival (1850395). **1.00** First Flights (9382685). 1.30-2.00 Ancient Warriors (9638579).

Fame (9.30pm Sky Cinema),

7.00 The Simpsons (9508t), 7.20 The 4.00 The Bandit of Sherwood Forest (1946) (7034739). 6.00 About Mrs Lesie Chris Evens (29642), 8.30 Hollywood Squares (94915). **9.00** Guiltyl (21245). 10.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (70772). 11.00 (1945) (2848772), 9.30 Hollywood Hall of Oprah Winfrey (90536). 12.00 Jenny Jones Fame (136642). See Pick of the Day. 10.00 Pebecca (1940) (17958791). See Pick of the Day. 12.15 I Walk the Line (1970) (8162517), **12.55** Special K (53276352), **1.00** Days of Our Lives (9243826), **1.55** Special K (77595739), **2.00** Sally Jessy Rephael (6062333), **2.55** Special K (2830460), 3.30 Hollywood Hall of Fame (2078888). 3.00 Jenny Jones (7939710). (7687463), **4.00** Francis in the Haunted House (1956) (53025005), **5.20** Close 3.55 Special K (8509536), 4.00 Gullty! (305)71, 5.00 Star Trefc Deep Space Nine (7343). 6,00 Married with Children (7888). 6.30 Dream Team (1468), 7.00 The Simpsons (1062), 7.30 Real TV (4492), 8.00 6.00 Pepe Le Moko (1936) (2593642). 8.00 The Englishman Who Went up a Hill Speed (2410). 8.30 Coppers (6517). 9.00 Close Calls: Cheating Death 2 (79994). 10,00 Ibiza Uncovered - the Reunion (2572159). 10.00 Four Weddings and a (72081), **11.00** Dream Team (31246), **11.30** Star Trek (84284), **12.30** Renegade

(53579). 1.30 - 7.00 Long Play (4106647). SKY SPORTS 1 7.00 Sky Sports Centre (8745555). 7:15 V-Max (794975). **7.45** Windsurfing (793246). 8.15 Sports Centre (8996246), 8.30 Racing News (32062), 9.00 Aerobics (56642). 9.30 Football Review (95772). 10.30 Pool

(76159), 11.30 V-Max (97826), 12.00 Aerobics (43178), 12.30 Ringside (19212), 2.30 Spanish Football (81333), 4.30 Sports Auction (9265). 5.00 World Wrestling Federation Live Wire (5197), 5.00 Sky Sports Centre (6230), 6.30 Scottish Football (83130), 7.30 Fastrax (6474), 8.00 Motorcy-ding (26826), 10.00 Sky Sports Centre (590'59), 1035 The Footbellers' Football Show (903081), 1135 Inside Scottish Footbal (909265), 12.15 Sky Sports Centre (3834647), 12.30 Motorcycling (46192), 2.30-2.45 Sports Centre (4667395),

SKY SPORTS 2 SkT SPORTS 2 9.30 Racing News (3929420) 10.00 irish National Raily (3908081) 11.00 Show Jumping (3995517) 12.00 International Cricket Australia vs England (7834517). 3.00 World Motor Sport (8198178). 6.00 Sports Unlimited (3948555). 7.00 Sports Auction (5951951). 7.30 Worthington Cup Football (7559062), 10.00 Showjumping (6374642), 11.00 Fastrax (8270975), 11.30 Sports Unlimited (9479130). 12.30 Worthington Cup Football (6214111). 2.00 international Cricket Australia vs England (1227043), 4.30 Second Innings (7329192). 5.00 - 9.30 Cricket Australia vs England

SKY SPORTS 3 12.00 World Wrestling (48530555). 1.00 Fish TV - Tony Dean Outdoors (9470588) 1.30 Fish TV (48510791), 2.00 Dickle Davies' Sporting Heroes - Cliff Morgan (85028623). See Pick of the Day. 3.00 Second Imings (67272826). 3.30

Showjumping - Spruce Meadows Horse Diaries (40799555). 4.30 Sabah Climbathon (14536197), 5.30 Fastrax (93395555), 6.00 Showjumping - Spruce Meadows Horse Dianes (48536739), 7.00 International Cricket Australia vs England (69808159), 10.00 Superbouts (65859772). **11,00-11,30** Otympic Series Olympic Destinies (47985913). EUROSPORT

7,30 Nordic Combined Skiing (58178), 9,00 Sking (61888), 10.00 Bobsleigh (12772), 11.00 Football: Eurogoals (74791), 12.30 Rally (64159). 1.00 Athletics (85642). 2.00 Luge (99333). 3.00 Ski Jumping (98401). 4.30 Football: Eurogoals (21772) 6.00 Tennis (1750/97), 9.30 Football (33401). 11.30 Boxing (19994). 12.30 Close. UK GOLD

7.00 Crossroads (9060505), 7.30 Neighbours (4922449), 7.55 EastEnders (4339826), 8.30 BB (8645246), 9.00 The Bill (8669826), 9.30 Bergerac (972420). 10.30 Angels (8658710), 11.00 Dallas (3062420). **11.55** Neighbours (3241371). **12.25** EastEnders (2845420). **1.00** Juliet Bravo (7918975). 2.00 Dalas (6182159). 2.55 Bil (2537710). 3.25 Bil (6744710). 3.55 Bergerac (6281776), 4.55 East-Enders (1759449), 5.30 Angels (8491284). 6.00 Due South (7938739). 7.00 May to December (2332739). 7.40 It Ain't Half Hot, Mum (3520771). 8,20 Dad's Army (7825994). 9,00 Red Dwarf II (5525178). 9.40 This Life (6592197). 10.30 NYPD Blue (74028389). 11.35 The Bill (4025975) 12.05 The Bil (4430289), 12.35 The Chief 2.25 Live at Jongleurs (44855314) 2.55 - 7.0 Shopping with Screenshop (48445579). 6.00 Tiny Living (9054739). 9.00 The

(2131260), 1.30 Colin's Sandwich (3216208).

Roseanne Show (4857265), 9.50 The Jerry Springer Show (5692468), 10.40 Michael Cole (3803826), 11.30 Brookside (1730178 12.00 Special Babies (3891159), 12.30 Rescue 911 (1364420). **1.00** Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction (1172623), 1.30 Ready. Steady, Cook (7202062), 2.05 Rolonda (4672130). 2.55 Living It Up! (4310642). 3.55 Jerry Springer Show (9388197). 4.45 Tempestt (7322623). 5.35 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (8609062), **6.10** The Jerry Springer Show (6336159), **7.00** Rescue 9t1 6). **7.30** Beyond Belief (1682062). 8.00 Aliv McBeal (9432772), 9.00 Film: In My Daughter's Name (1992) (9442159). 11.00 Sex Zone (1159772). 12.00 Close.

9.00 2010 (1984) (65877178). 11.00 Wild Rovers (1971) (49105046), 1.15 Tick... Tick... Tick (1970) (16766043), 3.00 2010 (1984) 14279561, **5.00** Close(). PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHANNEL 7.00 Clueless (4468). 7.30 Desmond's

(8536), **8.00** Roseanne (2848), **8.30** Just Shoot Me (2623), **9.00** Ellen (74975), **9.30** Seinfeld (80197). 10.00 Frasier (42449). 10.30 Cheers (51197). 11.00 Festival of Fun II (79420), 11L30 The Larry Sanders Show (90062). 12.00 Late Night with David Letterman (68006), 1.00 Taxi (40043), 1.30 The Critic (55463), 2.00 Dr Katz (87579). 2.30 Soap (99314), 3.00 Hooperman (37579), 3-30-4-00 Nightstand (80666).

GRANADA PLUS **6.00** The Sox (9025739), **7.00** On the Buses (8448913), **7.30** Fenn Street Gang (8427420), **8.00** Surgical Spirit (8130975). 8.30 A Fine Romance (8139246). 9.00 Coronation Street (8153826). 9.30 Emmerdale (8036739), 10.00 thirtysomething (8423604), 11.00 Hawaii Five-O (8443468). 12.00 Coronation Street (8133062), 12.30 Emmerdale (8030555), 1.00 The Piglet Files (8447284). 1.30 Watching (8039826). 2.00 thirtysomething (4015449). 3.00 The Casebook of Sherlock Holmes (4588738). 4.00 The Professionals (4567246). 5.00 Hawaii Five-O (2331710). 6.00 Emmerdale (874655), 6.30 Coronation St (8737807). 7.00 Mission: Impossible (2163371), 8.00 The Professionals (2149791), 9.00 Classic Coronation Street (4556130), 9.30 Sez Les (8010791). 10.00 The Joker's Wild (8134791). 10.30 Hogan's Heroes (8150739), 11.00-2.00 As Granada Men & Motors (1352265).

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 N IRELAND As BBC1 London except: 9.30 Lets Tak (63436). 10.20 The Man, the Myth and the Werdrobe (796739). 11.10 QED (767062). 11.40 Firm: Beverly Hills Cop II (587371). 1.20 BBC News 24 (97107598).

BBC1 SCOTLAND As BBC1 London except 12.25

Dotaman (3064975) 12.40 La-Braith Sona
Dhut (7344859) 12.45 Orain agus Rannan (73430130) 2.05 Bowls Glasgow Classic (7373401), 3.00 Wipcout (4708721). 6.00 News (8) 6.30 Reporting Scotland; Weather (20, 9.30 Frontine Scotland (28046) 11.40 Bowls Glasgow Classic (985492) 12.40 Firm: Without a Clue (680227), 2.25 BBC News 24 (89568665).

BBC1 WALES
As BBC1 London except: 6.30 Wales
Today (688352), 6.55 Party Political Broadcast by Plaid Cymru (175833), 9.30 Week
in Week Out (26046), 10.00 CIED (62178),
10.30 FAW Premier Cup (287791), 1130
Film: Beverly Hils Cop I (685739), 12.50
Film: Without a Clue (679111), 2.35 Joins
BBC News 24 (40532032). BRC1 WALES

As Cariton except: 12.20 Angla News and Weather (6369623): 1.00 Spir Second (48888): 1.30 Home and Away (74401).

z.uu crinstmas Home in the Country (\$621710), 5:10 Shortland Street (\$270826). 6.00 Home and Away (\$09875), 6.25 An-gla News (250155), 7:30 Bygone Days (72). 10.00 ITN News; Weather (\$7246), 10.30 Angla News and Weather (\$06975), 10.40 Midweek Kick-Off (2318062), 12:10 Tales 2.00 Christmas Home in the Country MICHAESK NUCL-UT (2316/052), 12.30 Tales from the Darkside (3115531), 12.40 The Haunted Fishtank (2116482), 130 Planet Rock Profiles (4713256), 2.05 Film: The Black Rider* (7826531), 3.30 Nationwide Footbell Lague Extra (7/8579), 440 Cybernet (8725666), 4.35 Soundtrax (9787208), 4.55 Nightscreen (8683531).

CENTRAL. As Cartion except: 12.20 Central News and Weather (6369623). 1.00 Echo Point (49888). 5.10 Shortland Street (6270626). 6.00 Home and Away (609915). 6.25 Central News (25059). 7.30 Heart of the Country (72), 10.30 Central News and Weather (306975), 11.40 Central Sports Special (690820), 4.20 Joblindar Mentral (2089555). **5.20** Asian Eye (261531).

HTV WALES AS Curifors except: 10.15 This Morning (863294), 12.15 HTV News (3060159), 1.00 Shortland Street (49888), 1.30 Home and Away (74401), 2.00 Christmas Home in the Country (5621710), 5.10 Playing for Time

(8270826), 6.00 Home and Away (809915), 6.25 Wales Toright (754064), 6.55 Party Political Broadcast by Plaid Cymru (752951), 7.30 Your Century (72), 10.30 HTV News (306975). 10.40 Welsh Woman fil v News (305/5). 30.40 West World of the Year 96 (5873). 11.40 When England Played Argentins (88062), 12.40 The Haunted Fishtank (2116482). 150 Planet Rock Profiles (4713258). 2.05 Film: The Black Rider* (7826531). 340 Nationwide Footbell League Extra (1718579). 440 Cy-bernet (37255666). 4.35 Soundtrax (33187208). 4.55 Nightscreen (3683531).

KTV WEST As HTV Wales except: 5:10 Along the Cotsword Way (6270826), 6:25 HTV West Weather (696371):7:30 Take 3 (72), 10:40 When England Played Argentina (587389). 11:40 Midnight Caller (680820). MERIDIAN

As Cariton except: 10.15 This Morning (863284), 1.00 Shortland Street (49888). 1.30 Home and Away (74401), 2.00 Christ 1.30 Home and Away (A401) 2.00 Cris-mas Home in the Country (5627/10), 540 Home and Away (6270826), 5.37 Three Minutes (705468), 6.00 Meridian Tortight (36), 6.30 Aspiralis Animals (88), 7.30 Crown and Country (72), 10.30 Meridian News and Weather (306975), 11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (680820), 12.40 The

Haunted Fishtank (216482), 440 Planet Rock Profiles (476258), 2.05 Film: The Black Rider (7826531), 340 Nationwide Football League Extra (176579), 440 Cy-bernet (8725566), 4.35 Soundrax (19825666), 4.55 Soundrax (93187208). 4.55 ITV Nightscreen (76838717). 5.00 Freescreen (20666). WESTCOUNTRY

As Cartton except: 10.15 This Morning (863284), 12.15 Westcountry News (3060159). 12.27 Numinations (6377642). 1.00 Emmardale (49888). 6.00 Westcountry Live (90449). 7.30 Westcountry Dynasties (72). 11.40 Anatomy of Disaster (680820). 12.40 The Haunted Fishtank (21)6482). 130 Planet Rock Profiles (4713258), 2.05 Film: The Black Rider* (7826531), 3.10 Nationwide Football League Extra (178579). 4.40 Cybernet (87255666). 4.35 Soundtrax (93187208). 4.55 ITV

YORKSHERE As Cariton except: 10:15 This Morning (863284), 12:15 Calendar News and Weether (3060159). **1.00** Home and Away (58594913). **1.25** Christmas Home in the (5009915), 12.23 Cristians numer it the Country (5290449), 2.10 Coronation Street (56653178), 5.40 News; Weather (538468), 5.55 Calendar (632804), 6.30 Tonight (68), 7.30 What a Picture (72), 10.30 Calendar

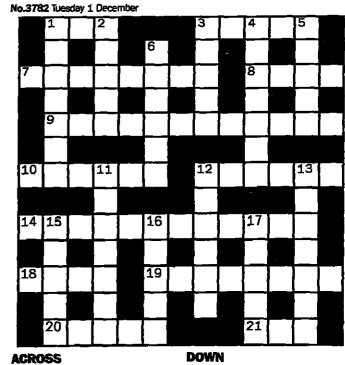
. CATOMES 0-9, FASHION 10-11, ARTS 12-13, YOUR MONEY 14-15. SECRETARIAL 16

News and Weather (306975), 11.40 Renegade (680820). 4.20 Jobfinder (2829463). TYNE TEES

As Yorkshire except: 1245 North East News and Weather (3060159). 5.55 North Rest Weather (785604) 6.00 North East Toright (90449) 7.30 Magnetic North (72) 10.30 North East News (306975) 10.40 North East Match (567399) 11.40 When England Played Argentina (680820).

As Channel 4 except: 12.00 Judge Joe Brown (46978468), 12.30 Sesame Street (32656505), 1.00 Planed Plant: Bwgan a Clwc (46685994). 1.30 Rat-tlesnake (83039791). 1.35 Film: A Letter tiesnake (83039791). 1.35 Film: A Letter to Three Wives (15384449). 4.30 Ricki Lake (1838710). 5.00 Planed Plant: Uned 5 (16434246). 5.30 Countdown (1829062). 6.00 Newyddion (19420826). 6.40 Heno (80150081). 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (33814555). 7.25 Cerdyn Post (98422997). 8.00 Y Sice Gelf (16423130). 8.30 Darliediad Gwieldyddol (76710197). 8.35 Newyddion (81881197). 9.05 Cutting Edge (74090791). 10.05 Brookside (95298791). 10.40 Witness (34608352). 11.40 Dawson's Creek (7471178). 12.35 Kiss Kiss Bang Bang (83389050). 1.20 Turner Prize 1998 (35231289). 2.20 Close

CONCISE CROSSWORD



Roman god of underworld (3) Glowing coal (5)

Large dog (8) Delicate material (4) Fungal infection (8.4) 10 Curiosity (6) 12 Support for broken limb (6)

14 Type of sale (5.7) 18 Tumbledown building (4) 19 Unclear situation (4.4) 20 Holiness (5) 21 Metallic element (3)

Stupid person (7) Cut (5) Premium bond selector (5) Menacing (7) Right-hand page (5) Sunday hest (6) Enrage (7) Gullible person (6) 13 Cotton material (7) 15 Take over without authority (5) 16 Furious (5)

17 Not appropriate (5) Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Alarm, 4 Owed (A la mode), 8 Suspect, 9 Vague, 10 Yank, 11 Arboreal, 12 Prepossessing, 15 Calouhas, 17 Flap, 20 Fable, 21 Earache, 22 Blot, 23 Tempt, DOWN: 1 Absence, 2 Abed, 3 Mature student, 4 Obvious, 5 Engle, 6 Espy, 7 Jet-lag, 12 Pacify, 13 Opulent, 14 Illicit, 16 Libel, 18 Prey, 19 Pram.

ALL FREE MONITES MUST BE USED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF OPDING THE ACCOUNT. THE OFFICE NOT OPEN TO EXISTING ACCOUNT HOLDERS, COMPANISONS ARE WITH BY STANDARD BASE RATES.

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PETER CONCHIE TELEVISION REVIEW

Rummer, you tell your beenage children that mum and dad are taking them to a picnic, don't be alarmed if they run screaming to their room and refuse to come out again until Christmas; don't be surprised if they never go down to the woods again. They probably saw last night's Witness (C4). "The Picnic" was made by October Films, which is apt given that the subject of the film was children in the autumn of youth. It followed the radical measures taken in south Mississippi to find homes for "difficult" older kids, its dramatic focus being an annual picnic where 45 children free for adoption were sized up by adults who were free to adopt them. The kids wore orange Tshrits, the parents green. It put the "pick" into picnic.

decided to adopt him permanently after other permanently after other permanently after other permanently after other parents had sized him up like a potential "fresh piece of meat". This livestock analogy was used throughout "The Plenic". As the children assembled for a photo call inside what looked like an auction-pen, parents-to-be leant on metal rails and eyed up the children like sleers. They stopped short of prodding their young hides, but were happy to thrust cameras in eager little faces. A house-buying metaphor would have been just as fitting. Syvia Sessions, adoption "specialist" cum estate agent, shamelessly manipulated open-faced couples at a prepicnic meeting. "We've really got some neat kids, but I'm in love with this one," she teased, clutching a Polarold to her breast. "If somebody else don't take him, I'm taking him." The wide-eyed adults, by then gidty with easence of parent, were shown a cute seven-year-old called Jeffrey. "He's just got free for adoption," Sylvia slviv concluded.

In other words, it's just come on to the market, it's exactly what you're looking for and other people are already interested. They didn't find out until later that Jeffrey had the behavioural equivalent of subsidence. By then it was too late. "She did tell me that if she was in my shoes, she'd be scared too," Paulette said later; recounting Sessions's call to tell her that the adoption was approved, after an afternoon's courtship of cuddles and

candyfloss. This was typical of the adoption agency's tack as the usual adoption etiquetic was abandoned and a child's history withheld until after the first meeting.

But the film was guilty of

shorthand so overused in radio features, and the director had an insatiable, if indiscriminale, appetite for visual metaphor. To make the point that a new kid on the block might struggle to fit in, it was a game of one-on-one with the basketball bouncing off the rim. Later, at the picnic, the ball swished clean through the hoop. The most successful of these were naturally the least contrived, such as the tender shot of Jeffrey reaching for his brand new dad from the merry-go-round outside McDonald's.

In Sound Storles (BBC2) the focus switched from damaged children to fractured communities in "An Irish Requiem". This charmingly understated film followed a four-day concert tour of Mozart's Requiem, with choirs from both sides of the border combining to celebrate the bicentenary of the 1798 Rebellion. Happily for the film's makers, this coincided with the conclusion of the Good Friday peace agreement.

One could imagine it as a low-budget British movie – a choral Commitments, if you like – and the director appeared to have something similar in mind. Organisers Terry McCabe and Bernie Lloyd had to borrow thousands of pounds for the tour and would only break even if the concerts sold out. Reheavals were delayed by coffins in church; there was the anticipatory pre-concert hum as Tony and Mo sat down at the table with John and David.

With that moral undertone unique to a requiem, it felt that the choristers themselves were contributing to the peace process – in a climactic chorus of assent, voices chimed in one after another, while long-lens shots of Stormont with 10

ster mother, 12-year-s carer for four years,

laugh, let them snoer, but 90,000 omelette pans prove that other celebrity chefs have a long way to go before they take the place of Delin in the public consciousness. This week, the shops will have been replenishing their stocks of King Edwards, Desirees and the rest in anticipation of our Delia's tribute to the potato. If perfect mash or roast spuds chude you – and I think you know who you are – this is your lucky week, as Delia takes a look at these and more complex dishes such as gnocchi. Not to be scoffed at, either, are her this for picking the right utensits and ingredients. After all, we're not born knowing this stuff...

Lynn Alleway's thoughtful film looks at a subject guaranteed to raise a storm in the Daily Mail: gay parenting. Focusing on just three unconventional families, rather than taking a more general approach, gives Alleway the opportunity to show the very human dilemmas homosexual men and women face when they want to have children. Such genile handling is unlikely to please those tabloid stalwarts who think the only good family is a nuclear one. Nevertheless, the more open-minded will be struck by how strongly the urge to have children affects us all, whatever our sexuality.

DOCUMENTARY

OF THE DAY

BBC

9.00 Kilroy (S) (T) (5819420), 9.40 Style Challenge (S) (1575772), 10.05 City Hospital (S) (T) (7358449), 10.55 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (4083420), 11.00 Good Living (S) (4000197), 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S) (T) (4003284), 11.35 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (1918333), 12.00 Pass the Buck (S) (9607894), 12.25 Going for a Song (S) (9886401), 12.50 The Weather Show (S) (T) (73451623), 1.00 News; Weather (T) (47420), 1.30 Regional News and Weather (45765197), 1.40 Neighbours (S) (T) (97784284), 2.05 ironside (S) (6359492), 2.55 Wippout (S) (4058130).

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (R) (S) (9547401), 3.45 Bananaman (R) (S) (6794130), 3.50 ChuckleVision (R) (S) (3841826), 4.10 Noah's Island (S) (T) (3882361), 4.35 It'll Never Work (R) (S) (T) (9110081), 5.00 Newsround (S) (T) (2754159), 5.10 Aquila (S) (T) (8460975).

Neighbours. Hannah is tired of being branded a liar. It looks as if Anne and Bill might be getting a little too close for comfort (S) (T) (778642).

6.00 Newsj Weather (T) (8).

Regional News (1) (20)

7.30 EastEnders. Beppe's Intended holiday becomes fully fiedged escape plan (S) (T) (84). Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook. Sid Owen and Richard Driscoil challenge Ross Burden and Tony Tobin (S) (T) (8642).

9.00

Holiday. To them that hath shall be given... This week's deserving celeb is Honor Blackman, on a luxury break in Cornwall (S) (2062).

Mysteries with Carol Vorderman. The real puzzle, however, is how this nonsense ever reached our screens (S) (T) (1197).

News; Regional News; Weather (T) (8081).

QED. Paralysed from the waist down after a car crash, Julie Hill was chosen to receive electronic implants to help her walk again. This film follows the story of her ploneering treatment (S) (T) (26046).

This limp sequel to the 1984 hit sees hard-nosed cop Axel Foley (Eddle Murphy) brought back to Los Angeles to help solve a bizarre series of crimes. Unfortunately, someone forgot to bring back with him any of the wit of the original, and the flashy, trashy direction does nothing to make up for it (T) (985604).

11,40 In without a Clue (Thom Eberhardt 1989 UK). In which we learn that Sherlock Holmes was, in fact, invented by Dr Watson (Ben Kingsley). But when the fictional sleuth catches the public imagination, Watson has to hire an actor to impersonate Holmes.

Unfortunately, the best he can find is the hopeless Reginald Kincaid (Michael Caine). A bit hit-and-miss, but

Joins BBC News 24 (97106869) To 6am.

COOKERY SHOW OF THE DAY

6.25 6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air. Will is confronted by his 13-year-old cousin, Ashley, who wants advice about her new boyfrlend (R) (S) (704569).

Reartbreak High. Ryan and Draz become dicemen. Lee turns Into a fashlon victim (S) (T) (994081).

7.10 Children's BBC: The O Zone (R) (T) (279913).

7.30 From the Edge. Magazine programme dealing with issues which affect disabled people. Featuring a profile of journalist Sue Arnold, who is officially registered blind (S) (T) (46).

8.00 University Challenge. Jeremy Paxman keeps order as London's City University take on Leicester for a place in the second round (S) (T) (8884).

GIDIG Delia's Now to Cook. Delia Smith creates simple recipes with the humble spud (S) (T) (9739). See Cookery Show of the Day.

9.00 Back to the Floor. The director general of the RSPCA is in for some nasty shocks when he experiences life as a lowly inspector (5) (T) (6523).
9.30 DITOIDS Modern Times. Fascinating look at the lengths to which some gay couples will go in order to have children (5) (T) (434343). See Documentary of the

10.20 Wrappers. A short documentary about the imagery of cigarette packets (S) (T) (227826).
10.30 Newsnight. With Jeremy Paxman (T) (209913).

10.30 Londo South-

Weather (T) (57246).

10,40 0

In Suspicious Circumstances. Edward Woodward with two true-crime mysteries (T) (587389).

BBC Asia Awards (S) (T) (619536). 12.00 Despatch Box (S) (68753). 12.30 Learning Zone: Open Science (T) (39753). 1.00 Healthy Futures (68314). 1.30 Talking Buildings (T) (73734). 2.00 Schools: English (56647). 4.00 Italianissimo 17-20 (29395). 5.00 Career Moves (3896956). 5.45 Open for Business (21573). To 6.15am

2.05 EIIM car cra

3.15

Sound League 5.30 N

11.40 Cariton Sport (358913), 12.35 Stash (4513050),
 12.40 The Haunted Fishtank (5299550), 1.15 Planet Rock Profiles (S) (5842111), 1.40 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (S) (9116314).

BBC2

3,20 Glants (R 4.15 Jum (1206197).

5.10 Home

5.40 Nows; Weather (T) (652536).

6.00 London Tonight. News update for the capital and the South-east (T) (36).

6.30 Good wheel **Good Stuff.** Rowland Rivron and Wendy Douglas wheel out the limo again for a look at what's hip and happening in London's entertainment world (S) (88).

7.00 Emme Right?

7.30

e Bill. The new hour-long format has turned out to a thoroughly good thing for the cops of Sun Hill, with ts no longer having to be shoehorned into 30 rutes. In this episode, Monroe finds himself at the urp end when a routine investigation leads him to vice, igs and violence in the Chinese community. But who if Hig? (7) (9826).

9.00 Grafters. The brotherly love-hate saga continues on its merry way, with Joe finding it hard to shake off his black mood and Trevor being pursued by not one but two women. Puzzlingly, this is doing well in the ratings, probably thanks to the popular appeal of the two leads (S) (T) (9062).

9,30 Driven.

on Tonight. News update for the capital and the reast (T) (306975). 10.45 Friends. Rachel and Ross's first date (R) (S) (T) (139159).

12.05 [III] Jump the Gun (1996). Powerful drama, one of the first to look at South Africa after apartheid

dtrax (S) (19714284). **3.25** Nationwide Football 9 Extra (9404463). **4.20** Nightscraen (2829463). News (63208). To 6am. Smokescreen (Jim O'Connolly 1964 UK). A sh puzzles an insurance investigator (1813579). 3,45 4.00 Schools (T) (58598). To 6am. HILLY Two Little Girls and a War. Short haunting film about two girls in a war-torn town (R)

erdale. Could Biff really be somebody's Mr And does anyone care? (S) (T) (1710).

10.00 The Young Person's Guide to Becoming a Rock Star. Things start to hot up – both for the band and the viewer – as Jocks Wa Hey arrive in London and set about inflitrating the ranks of the capital's pracious media scene. Celeb-spotters can look out for Noel Gallegher, Chrissle Hynde and Jay Kay (T) (778333).

11.15 Kiss Kiss Bang Bang (T) (713791).

2.20 Joe Public (R) (2596111). 2.50 Witness (R) (T) (2424531).

TV (1687081). **9.25** Trisha (S) (T) (2318772). **10.15** Morning (T) (52205604). **12.20** Your Shout 58623). **12.30** News; Weather (T) (75130). **1.00** don Today (T) (49888). **1.30** Christmas Home in the Juntry (7609246). **2.10** Home and Away (S) (T) 583178). **2.40** Date's Supermarket Sweep (S) (T) 37642). **3.10** ITN News Headlines (T) (1506178).

Iren's ITV: Wizadora (R) (8386791), **3.30** The 1g Kettle (S) (3468352), **3.45** Wolves, Witches and g Kettle (S) (3670178), **3.55** Zzzepi (S) (3835265), Jumanji (Ť) (6947230), **4.40** Out of Sight (S) (T)

and Away (S) (T) (6270826).

lings. Following couples from the Sikh, African reek communities as they prepare for the biggest their lives (72).

9.00 Brookside. Jacqui confesses all, but the truth about the surrogacy has a devastating effect on Ron. Lindsey and Peter kiss and make up (S) (T) (1791). Topical motor magazine (S) (T) (93536).

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1.50 IIIM Marked Woman (Lloyd Bacon 1937 US).
Bette Davis and Humphrey Bogart are on form in this tense melodrama, based on a true story. A district attorney (Bogart) persuades nightspot hostess Davis to testify against her underworld employer after he causes the death of her younger sister (T) (87402807). Sesame Street (73197), 7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (T) (80371), 9.00 Channel 4 Schools (T) (820062), 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (2284), 12.00 Sesame Street (54159), 12.30 I Dream of Jeannie (T) (73772), 1.00 Judge Joe Brown (30130), 1.30 St Ives (75404975),

00 5 News and Sport (S) (6754352), 7,00 WideWorld (R) (S) (T) (6512739), 7,30 Milkshake! (S) (2151739), 7,35 Wimzle's House (R) (S) (6716642), 8,00 Havakazoo (R) (S) (7127994), 8,30 Dappledown Farm (7126265), 9,00 The Great Garden Game (R) (S) (T) (717517), 9,30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (8841791), 10,20 Start Beach (S) (T) (2742343), 11,10 Lesza (R) (S) (893623), 12,00 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (7120081), 12,30 Family Alfalfs (S) (T) (2747791), 1,00 The Bold and the Beautitul (S) (T) (6504710), 1,30 Sons and Daughters (2740062), 2,00 (S) (2795517).

Collectors' Lot (T) (94), 4.00 Fifteen to One (T) (71), 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (9104420), 4.55 Ricki Lake (S) (T) (7430975).

3.30 IIIIM Beyond the Stars (David Saperstein 1989 US). A fresh-faced Christain Slater (what a difference a decade makes) stars as a space-med teenager who is thrilled to meet his astronaut hero. Martin Sheen is well-cast as the disillusioned spacemen (S) (T) (7143604).

5.20 The Roseanne Show. More calebrities line up to meet the opinionated American comedienne and talk show hostess (9627536).

5.30 Pet Rescue Roadshow. The team hits the road to track down more tales with that all-important "ahh" factor. Annoyingly compulsive (S) (T) (55).

6.00 Harry Hill. Cult comedian Harry Hill with his own brand of stand-up and sketches. That word "cult" says it all, really (T) (78).

6.00

100 Per Cent. The game show without a host (S) (2958081).

6.30 King of the Hill. Bobby discovers a talent for target shooting and – this being redneck country – Hank wants to encourage him (R) (S) (T) (30).

6.30

Family Affairs. Chris is angry when he gets a large phone bill. I think we can all sympathise with that (S) (T) (2847333).

7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (S) (T) (560333).

700

5 News, including First on Five. National and International news with Kirsty Young (S) (T) (1092130).

7.55 The 1998 Turner Prize: Writing about Art. A winner of the "Writing about Art" competition responds to Vong Phaopanits Ash and Silk Wall (1) (950866).

7.30 Watery World. This week, the aquatic documentary series wades through the ethereal undersea forests of kelp off the Californian coast (S) (T) (2943517).

8.00 The 1998 Turner Prize. Live coverage of the Turner Prize from the Tate Gallery in London. The programme includes profiles of the short-listed artists: Tacila Dean, Cathy de Moncheux, Chris Ofill and Sam Taylor-Wood. Art critic and author Matthew Collings is the frontmen, assisted by Gregor Muir, Adrian Searle, Louisa Buck, Kodwo Eshun and Martin McGeown (7468).

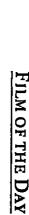
GIOTE: The Beast of War (Kevin Reynolds 1988 US). Powerful war drama, set during the Russian invasion of Afghantstan. A Soviet tank is separated from its unit and finds itself the target of a group of angry Afghans (S) (T) (6190352). See Film of the Day.

9.00

11.00 The Jack Docherty Show. Late-night and increasingly pointless chat. Even the host seems bored by the whole thing (S) (2822333).

11.40 The Streets of San Francisco (R) (T) (1917028).
12.40 Live and Dangerous (S) (7332948), 1.20 Live and Dangerous (continued) (S) (13450032), 3.45 Asian Football Show (9278111), 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (5165573), 8.30 100 Per Cent (R) (S) (7759802). To 6am.

TELEVISION GUIDE BY CLAIRE GERVAT



THE BEAST OF WAR (9pm C5, right) War films have a tendency to fall into either the gung-ho, "let's nuke 'em" camp or the "battle makes you crazy" one. In this refreshingly different offering, director Kevin Reynolds — with a gift of a script – produces something altogether more subtle and thoughtful. In the second year of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, a Russian tank crew finds itself trapped in the Valley of the Jackals, preyed upon by vengeful guerrillas. As they sit there, helpless, the soldiers begin to question the morality of their actions. The claustrophic setting of the



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What's the Story? A weekly look at a topical issue causing furrowed brows in the world at large (1020913).

Are You Being Cheated?. Looking at benefit fraud and posching, with the help of plenty of real-life footage (5) (1) (10/8178).